

be accorded an opportunity to be heard, for at least one of the commission will undertake to be present, besides the secretary. The members will not be idle, for to each has been allotted a particular line of inquiry, upon which he is expected to report to his fellow-commissioners at intervals.

RUMORS OF WAR.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 20.—The Republic this morning in summarizing dispatches from Florida, New York and Washington, says:

A crisis has been reached in the Cuban war. Recognition of the belligerency of the patriot army by the United States is imminent. President Cleveland is said to have prepared a proclamation, which may be issued today or in the immediate future. The President, it is declared, intended to recognize the insurgents last week when he learned of the recall of Marshal Campos, but under the circumstances the executive thought that such recognition would be regarded as inopportune and unfriendly to Spain, and he therefore withheld the important document, pending the appointment of a successor to Campos.

Within the past forty-eight hours, however, President Cleveland is said to have learned that Spain, despairing of a successful termination of the war, had offered to sell Cuba to Great Britain.

Rumors to this effect were circulated in the East last night and spread like wildfire over the country. The rumors seem to be confirmed by dispatches from Florida. The governors of the Southern States, according to these advices, have been requested by the war department to prepare the state militiamen for immediate service. Troops are already beginning to move in Florida. The belief is held in some quarters that the flying squadron of Great Britain is destined for service in American waters. If this is so, war will result. The cession of Cuba to Great Britain would be resisted by the United States to the last ditch.

Official information from the White House is lacking, but it is evident that serious complications are at hand. Senor Palma, head of the Cuban party in the United States, wires from Washington: "Our case is complete. The President and Congress will recognize the insurgents' cause."

Senor Palma adds that it is not necessary that the insurgents should hold a port, but that, as a matter of fact, General Gomez has taken half a dozen ports in the past week, leaving the Spanish army penned up in Havana.

The President, it is said, will issue a proclamation immediately. Authorities agree that the executive and not Congress should take the initiative. Congress will support the President heartily.

President Cleveland has hesitated to take so important a step while the official head of the revolution in this country is enjoying the protection of American citizenship. Secretary Olney has not felt so much embarrassment from this cause. He has been for some time in favor of immediate recognition and has been urging the President on, but Mr. Cleveland, being naturally cautious, has moved with great

deliberation. It is understood he had prepared to issue a proclamation recognizing the insurgents when he learned of the recall of Captain General Campos. For prudential reasons, and to avoid the charge of precipitancy, the President is said to have held the important announcement. Something has transpired within the past day or two, however, to change his policy, if Washington advices are accurate.

It is rumored here (Washington, D. C.) that Spain has offered to sell Cuba to Great Britain and that negotiations for the cession of the island to the British crown are now pending. Spain, it is said, has abandoned all hope of quelling the insurrection.

A report has it that the President may go beyond the original proposition and recognize the independence of Cuba. This, however, may be taken with a large grain of salt. There is a distinction between independence and belligerency. Belligerency can be recognized when insurgents have established themselves on a basis of apparent permanency by having military establishments able to cope with the armies of the parent country and have established a form of government. Independence on the other hand, according to the principle and invariable practice of the United States is recognized "only when the legal government of another nation, by its establishment in the actual exercise of political power, is supposed to have received the express or implied assent of the people."

The President, according to this version of the story, learned of the proposed deal and, after a conference with Senor Palma, determined to nip it in the bud by recognizing a state of war in Cuba and enforcing belligerent rights as laid down in international law. The hasty orders for troops, if they really have been given, can mean but one thing, to-wit: That the United States will resist any attempt on the part of Spain to emerge from the war by ceding Cuba to Great Britain or any other European country.

If the crisis is as acute as it would seem to be from the reports in circulation, Admiral Bunce will doubtless be instructed to leave Hampton Roads on short notice with an expedition to Cuba. American interests on the island would afford ground for the landing of troops in the event of an emergency.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—"While out west for the last week or so," remarked Squire Woodman, of the Chicago delegation, "the thought occurred to me that it would be a good idea to make a poll of the people I met on the trains on the Cuban question, before I finished my self-appointed task I interviewed 749 people from 33 different states and found 736 favorable to the United States recognizing the belligerency of Cuba. Nine declined to answer my question and four did not think the government of the United States would be justified in taking such a course."

"It strikes me that this was a pretty fair reflex of sentiment in this country on the Cuban matter. All kinds of classes of people were talked with, merchants, business men and farmers, and they unanimously suggested strong measures being resorted to which would have done the heart of any sympathizer good."

"My enmity against the Spaniards grows out of an incident in my career while in the navy and lying at Cadiz. There was a little squabble in which I became involved and with true Castilian hostility I was given a kick from behind, which laid me senseless. As long as I live I will carry a scar as a reminder of that affair, and every time I think about it my blood boils at the treacherous character of the people who inflicted it."

LONDON, Jan. 20.—In spite of the assertion of a sensational news agency to the contrary, the Associated Press is in a position to repeat its assertion of Saturday last that it has been informed by the British admiralty, that the destination of the flying squadron, now at Spithead, is not yet determined upon even by the admiralty, and certainly it will not go to Bermuda or anywhere in American waters for the present.

The reports from New York that communications regarding the destination of the British flying squadron have passed between the governments of the United States and Great Britain are pronounced utterly without foundation.

Lord Playfair, who is prominently identified with the movement to establish a permanent board for international arbitration, had a long interview today with United States Ambassador Bayard.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—A flat denial is given at the war department today of the report from Florida that the secretary has requested the governor of the state to put Florida troops in readiness to take the field at a moment's notice. The President has no constitutional or lawful authority to make such a request and it is said there is no emergency that would justify the calling out of the Florida militia.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

The Tabernacle services Sunday afternoon were presided over by President of the Stake Angus M. Cannon and a good gathering of Saints was in attendance.

Choir sang:

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire
Uttered or unexpressed,

Prayer was offered by Elder Charles Perkins.

Choir further sang:

Lo, in the outward Church below
The wheat and tares together grow.

Elder Matthew T. Noali, recently president of the Hawaiian Island mission first addressed the congregation. He said the work of God was progressing very rapidly in that portion of the country. Ever since the year 1851, when President George Q. Cannon labored among that people, the Church in that country has been growing and each year sees its membership vastly increasing. The most devout and earnest Saints among them, however, are those who embraced the Gospel when it was first introduced there. Many of those who join the Church now-a-days, do so mainly through the influence of their parents and friends who have been members of the Church for years. They are a peculiar people—peculiar in their habits—but full of love and friendship for their fellow man, so long as they are treated in a