

saw much hard fighting to the Indian campaign, in western Dakota and Montana.

**CHICAGO, Dec. 8.**—A special to the Times-Herald from San Francisco says:

"Secretary of State Olney, it is reported on excellent information, has under consideration a treaty of annexation of Hawaii to the United States. A letter just received here via Victoria states that this news has been received at the islands and that the treaty will be sent to the Senate very soon. The information is given out by a government official in Hawaii, whose name is withheld. This official stated positively that Minister Hatch had sent several letters from Washington bearing upon the subject. This treaty it is stated, had its origin in the state department and is now said to be under discussion by Secretary Olney and Ministers Hatch and Cooper, representing Hawaii."

It is intimated that Minister Cooper went to Washington in connection with this matter and knows just what Hawaii wants. In the island the sentiment is all for annexation. President Dole and his advisors are bound by the constitution to secure annexation as soon as practicable and the senate of the republic is unanimous on the subject.

**WILKESBARRE, Pa., Dec. 8.**—Abraham Robert who was to have been hanged today for the murder of Frederick T. Bittenbender, took poison in the cell this morning and is dying.

**KANSAS CITY, Dec. 8.**—A special to the Star from Webster city, Iowa, says an attempt to wreck a passenger train on the Iowa Central railroad, near Latimer, was made last night. Iron rails were laid across the track on the upper end of the curve where the obstruction could not be seen from the engine until too near to stop. Engineer Seawington with an extra freight was just ahead of the passenger. His engine struck the obstruction. Robbery is supposed to have been the motive.

**WICHITA, Kan., Dec. 8.** A special to the Beacon from Blackwell, Okla., states that the dead outlaw, killed last Friday, has been fully identified as Dynamite Dick. It is alleged the deputy marshals claimed he was Black Craig on account of jealousy arising from the fact that there was \$4,000 aggregate reward on Dynamite Dick's head.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.**—Minister Hatch of Hawaii today authorized a denial of the report of negotiations of a treaty of annexation between Hawaii and the United States. The report alleged that Secretary Olney had such a treaty before him.

**SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 8.**—The owners of the American schooner James G. Swan have lost their case before the United States district court and will be compelled to forfeit the vessel for violating the sealing laws. The case is already a noted one, as it is the first time an American schooner has been forfeited for illegal sealing by an American court. In his information the United States attorney alleged that the cause of the forfeiture was that the Swan was, on August 5, 1896, found employed in killing and capturing fur seals in Bering sea within the limits of a zone of sixty geo-

graphical miles surrounding the Pribiloff islands, in violation of the first section of the act of 1894. The owners of the vessel appeared in the case as claimants and with an answer denying that the schooner was at any time violating the law.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.**—The most noticeable feature of the Republican Senate caucus today, as seen from the outside, was the absence of the men who booted the nomination of McKinley because of the gold standard platform. Those absent on this account were Dubois, Pettigrew, Mantle, Squire, Teller. All, except Teller, were in the city and invited to attend the caucus. That their absence was intentional was clearly shown by the following letter read soon after the caucus was called to order by Senator Sherman:

"WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.  
To Hon. John Sherman, and the  
caucus of Republican senators:

Sir—I hereby respectfully resign my position as secretary of the caucus of Republican senators. I also resign my position as a member and secretary of the Republican advisory or "steering" committee of the Senate.

Very truly yours,  
FRED. T. DUBOIS."

Dubois's action was received without comment. On motion of Lodge, Wilson of Washington was chosen secretary. Shoup was placed on the steering committee in the place vacated by his colleague. This committee was also enlarged by the addition of Hansborough, North Dakota.

The Dingley tariff bill was referred to the steering committee with instructions to investigate as to the likelihood of getting the bill through and devise means to that end, if possible.

It was the prevailing opinion that the best policy demanded the passage of the bill, but the opinion seemed to be quite general that this is not within the range of possibility.

Gear brought up the Pacific railroad bill. It was referred to the steering committee.

After Lodge had explained the status of the immigration bill, the caucus desired to stand by that as a party measure and press its early consideration.

The caucus also decided for international agreement on silver by agreeing to the following resolution introduced by Wolcott:

"Resolved that a special committee of five members of this caucus be appointed to recommend some plan whereby legislation may be had in this session of Congress looking to an international conference with the leading commercial nations of the world on the promotion of bimetalism."

**CHICAGO, Dec. 8.**—Ex-Alderman Frank C. Vieling has been arrested on a charge of embezzling \$4,800 from a concern in Sacramento, Cal. The case was continued until Dec. 17th. T. W. Ramsarge is the complainant. Vieling is said to be administrator of several estates in California.

**CHICAGO, Dec. 8.**—Henry Owen O'Connor, one of the witnesses for the prosecution in the famous Cronin murder case committed suicide by shooting himself at his home in this

city. O'Connor was a friend of Dr. Cronin, and his evidence in the trial was confined to the remarks he had heard made in Camp 20 of Clan-na-nels by some of the defendants against Dr. Cronin. O'Connor appeared at the first trial, but would not testify when summoned to the rehearing in behalf of Dan Coughlin. He was in New York at the time and would not listen to any persuasions to make a trip to Chicago. His death recalls the mysterious fatality which has pursued persons connected with that great case. Just before he shot himself O'Connor drew up a will disposing of his property and called in neighbors to witness it. This document was made the basis of a farewell letter to life, and O'Connor said illness prompted him to do away with himself. O'Connor had interested himself lately in some western mining properties in Montana and Arizona. He expected to leave this city in a day or two for a trip to Arizona to inspect the mines.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.**—"I have nothing to do with the selection of McKinley's cabinet, and any news concerning it must come from him."

This declaration was made by Chairman Hanna today when asked whether Senator Sherman was likely to become a member of the cabinet. From other sources of higher character it is learned that McKinley will ask Sherman to accept one of the most important portfolios. Whether the senator will accept is seriously doubtful.

Hanna is in favor of having the inaugural ball in the new congressional library building instead of the pension office, but he is meeting with opposition from Senator Morrill and others.

**CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 8.**—There is a keen disappointment here that President Cleveland could not see his way to recognize the belligerency of the Cuban Mexican sympathy is undoubtedly with them, and this country and most of South America, with the possible exception of Chile, are ready to follow the lead of the great republic. It is said here that McKinley will take a more generous attitude.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.**—Powers (Vermont) chairman of the committee on Pacific railroads, heartily approves that portion of Cleveland's message relating to Pacific railroads:

"Something must be done at once," said he. "We will bring up the bill agreed upon by the committee last session at the earliest possible moment."

Judge Powers says the committee on rules will ask to give the Pacific railroads committee three or four days for consideration of the bill and seems confident that they will be granted. Whether time will be given before or after the holiday recess, he says, depends on circumstances.

"Do you think the bill will pass?"

"I do. I do not see how the House can reject it. It is simply a question of whether the government shall make the best bargain it can for the securing the payment of its debt, or lose all."

**BOMBAY, Dec. 9.**—The plague is spreading everywhere. On Tuesday there were 55 fresh cases and 870 deaths here. There have been 1,126 cases and 804 deaths.