

## AT HOME AND ABROAD.

GALVESTON, Tex., Feb. 19.—Yesterday the News contained a lengthy dispatch under Dallas date telling of a monster expedition that was said to be about to leave Texas for Cuba libre, containing about 800 armed men and ammunition, and now another Cuban expedition has developed. In his rounds yesterday a reporter of the News came across Mr. Andros Sacrocco, a representative of the Cuban government who is in the city, the guest of a well known laboring man, who asks that his name be withheld.

Mr. Sacrocco tells a very interesting story. He claims that up to within a short while ago he was in Cuba as a clerk in the government offices. He claims to be an agent of the Cuban government and is here for the purpose of enlisting a brigade of Texas cowboys. They are all good horsemen, trained marksmen and of dauntless courage, caring nothing for danger and valuing the success of the cause in which they are engaged more than their lives, he said.

He has half the number required and all funds to pay expenses, and expects to land the frontier men in Cuba within two weeks.

TACOMA, Wash., Feb. 19.—The third mate of the steamer Olympia tells a story which throws some light on the disappearance of the American ship T. F. Oakes, which sailed from Hong Kong for New York on July 4th last and has never been heard from since. She has since been reinsured at the heavy premium of 40 guineas. Mate Smith says that just before the Oakes was ready to sail Captain Reed announced his intention of making a voyage to New York across the Pacific and around Cape Horn, trusting that the monsoon due at that time would enable him to make a quick passage to the cape. This route is an unusual one and it was not known until now that the captain of the Oakes had decided to take it. It is customary for vessels at Hong Kong when making the passage to New York to sail through the China sea into the Indian ocean by what is known as the Eastern passage. Some shipping men think the Oakes may yet sail into New York uninjured.

BERLIN, Feb. 19.—[Copyrighted by the Associated Press.]—Newspapers in this city reflect the bitter resentment felt by Emperor William at the rejection by Marquis Salisbury of his majesty's personal proposal to coerce Greece by a joint blockade of the Piræus, the port of Athens, by the fleets of the powers, in order to check the warlike demonstrations of Greece. The emperor's proposal caused great surprise in diplomatic circles, as it was generally assumed he would not oppose Greek pretensions in regard to Crete, owing to his sister Sophia being the wife of the duke of Sparta, the crown prince of Greece. But it appears there has long been absolute estrangement between the emperor and his sister, arising from an old time quarrel, and his majesty, in addition, never has been over friendly to the royal family of Greece. In diplomatic circles it is surmised that emperor William's

dignity was injured in some manner, probably by the firm attitude assumed by Greece in face of the remonstrances of Germany; hence the extreme proposal to blockade Piræus was urged by him with unusual vehemence through the ambassadors here upon the European cabinets.

The marquis of Salisbury, without hesitation, promptly declined the emperor's proposition, saying public opinion in Great Britain would never acquiesce in such a policy.

The National Zeitung makes direct charges against the British of attempting to disturb the peace of Europe and says: "The immediate future will show whether the agreement of the powers will be disturbed by the manifestation of separate British interests, which promises to raise the veil hitherto shrouding the origin of the extremely strange Greek adventure. From the outset we have been of the opinion that it was not so much an attack on Turkey as to strike a blow at the European peace."

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—Crowds of strikers congregated around the tanneries today but the police had no difficulty in preserving order. Aside from minor scrimmages the few men who returned to work were not molested. Committees have been appointed by the strikers to visit the big tanneries and try to agree on a settlement.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 19.—A fire in the Everett school building this morning caused a panic among the pupils. The police ambulances were quickly on hand, and within a few minutes thirteen injured victims were on the way to the city hospital. The fire was extinguished without any considerable damage.

PARIS, Feb. 19.—Fifteen hundred students met at the Place Pantheon tonight and crossed the Seine, despite the police, who attempted to bar the way. The students paraded the boulevard briskly, shouting "Vive Greece and Crete!" "Down with Turkey!"

Violent collisions occurred with the police, and many persons received trifling injuries. Altogether nearly 100 arrests were made.

The mob invaded the terrace and Cafe Harcourt. Customers were jostled and compelled to take refuge inside the restaurant. A woman in an advanced state of pregnancy was trampled under foot and taken to the Hospital Charite. One of the students had one of his legs broken, and a commercial traveler also received injuries in the head.

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal., Feb. 20.—A corporation to be known as the Southern California Power company has been organized with a capital stock of \$1,000,000. The principal stockholders are Henry Fisher Pittsburg, Pa., and H. H. Sinclair, president and manager of the Redlands Electric Light and Power company. The principal place of business of the corporation is Redlands. The purpose of the company is to develop power from the Santa Ana river by taking the water out at the junction of Bear Creek and the Santa Ana river carrying it in a cement ditch and tunnels about four miles, thus securing a fall

of 1,000 to 1,100 feet, and then running the water again into the stream. The power will be transmitted by pole line to Los Angeles, there to be used to supplant steam power now used to develop electricity for lighting and railroad companies. It will be the longest line and the highest voltage (30,000 volts) in use in the world. The line will run through San Bernardino and Pasadena and will be able to supply all power needed in these towns. Work will be begun in the Santa Ana canyon as soon as surveys are completed, which will be about April 1. It is proposed to deliver power into Los Angeles by January 1, 1898.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—By the explosion of natural gas in the press room of the Chronicle this morning six persons were burned and about \$10,000 damage done. John McMillan, foreman, and Matthew Baine, mailer, are said to be dangerously hurt. The explosion was caused by a leak in the pipes.

The force of the explosion shook the building to the foundation, hurling the workmen to the ground. A moment later flames were discovered as they way through the wood work immediately below the sidewalk on Washington street. It required an hour to subdue the flames. Those painfully but not dangerously injured were: Lewis Hargrove, chief engineer; Charles Dupus, clerk; Alfred Steinger, Benjamin McMillan.

Several persons by were blown off their feet by the explosion.

FALLS VILLAGE, Conn., Feb. 20.—When he awoke this morning the ten-year old son of Postmaster Walter Chapin found his mother and Charles Meade, the 25-year-old son of Rev. H. P. Meade, formerly of Falls village, now of Scotland, Conn., dead in the dining room. Near by was a revolver with several chambers empty. The supposition is that Meade killed Mrs. Chapin and then himself.

Chapin had confided the administration of the post office to his wife, as his duties as superintendent of hatcheries at Sheffield kept him occupied a large part of the time. When the boy Joseph arose this morning he found the door blocked, and forcing it discovered his mother's dead body lying against it. Coroner Higgins began an investigation. It showed that while there were two bullet wounds in Meade's head, there was but one in the forehead of Mrs. Chapin. The revolver was found nearer Mrs. Chapin's body than Meade's. The coroner did not complete the investigation but may accept the theory that Meade went to the house, an un invited visitor, or broke in, and that Mrs. Chapin, in order to protect herself shot him and subsequently killed herself. Mrs. Chapin was the daughter of Sidney Morris, a life-long resident at Falls Village.

AUSTIN, Tex., Feb. 23.—The most valuable donation ever made to the university of Texas and possibly the most unique ever made any institution was made today. It was a gift of 25,000 books valued at \$100,000. The donor was Swante Palm, who has spent fifty years in the collection of this library and has secured many of the richest treasure of London, New York and Edinburgh.

For the last 31 years Swante Palm has been the Swedish vice consul in Austin. In 1883 King Oscar of Sweden