

finally yielded to the bluster of the British lion. England would never have had a single port on the Pacific coast had the Democratic leaders shown as much backbone as they seem to have now.

"The Republicans will promptly rally to the support of Mr. Cleveland. I do not believe, however, that we shall have war."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Three or four of the officers of the cabinet were engaged in conference at intervals throughout the day. In the morning Secretaries Carlisle, Lamont and Herbert spent some time at the White House, and during the visit views were exchanged between them. The impression is that in addition to talking over the financial conditions, they are interested in the personnel of the Venezuelan commission. It is believed that the President is already in communication with some of the persons whom he would be pleased to have undertake the work, but in advance of their acceptance of membership their names will not be made public, and consequently the composition of the commission is purely speculative at this time.

CUBA AND PORTO RICO.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—A local paper says: Members of the Porto Rican revolutionary party, who have organized a junta to work in conjunction with the Cuban junta are purchasing arms and fitting out an expedition. The organization of the party and the junta has met with the approval of the Porto Ricans in this city and elsewhere who realize that a decisive blow can be struck for liberty now that Spain's energy is devoted to quelling the insurrection in Cuba.

It was positively learned last night that Senor Estrada Palma, on behalf of the Cuban junta has entered into a compact with Dr. J. Julio Henna, president of the Porto Rican revolutionary party whereby both parties will co-operate in aiding the causes of Cuba and Porto Rico. President Henna acknowledged that he had been in consultation with President Palma and that steps will at once be taken to assist the people of Porto Rico, who are anxiously awaiting the signal to arise.

A meeting of the members of both the Cuban and Porto Rican junta will be held at the Cuban headquarters, when a plan favorable to the Porto Ricans will be decided upon. The Cuban junta realizes that it has secured powerful allies in the war against Spain. With the development of an insurrection in Porto Rico the efforts of the Spanish to put down the war in Cuba will necessarily be weakened and troops will be sent from the island of Cuba to Porto Rico.

For months past the revolutionary Porto Ricans in this city have been corresponding with the leading revolutionary spirits in the island and President Henna said yesterday that thirty towns had been heard from whose inhabitants are ready to revolt when the proper time comes.

He said: "We addressed communications also to our general delegate, Dr. Ramon E. Betances, who is also agent for the Cubans in Paris and to other prominent Cubans and Porto

Ricans abroad, who are eager to see Porto Rico free. From them we received great encouragement and proffers of assistance. They forwarded me the necessary documents of endorsement."

"I realize that a few men have no right to force a revolution even in the cause of liberty, but our people are waiting only for leaders and revolution is what the people want. Our plans are maturing."

"Cuba's success means Porto Rico's triumph. We will aid Cuba and she will aid us. When we are prepared for battle our people will rise, armed with guns and ammunition sent from this and other countries."

THE DEBTS OF THE NATION.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—The Times-Herald this morning says: Chicago men are almost unanimous that the only way to pay the debts of the nation is to increase the duties on imports. They were pleased at the prompt action of Congress in responding to the appeal of the President to relieve the treasury by another issue of gold bonds, because they felt the issue was necessary to meet present exigencies. But it was considered that this ought to be the final issue of bonds, as higher import duties would provide the government with sufficient funds in the future and the gold reserve would remain intact. Some of the business men of this city think the tariff cannot be made too high in order to yield a handsome revenue to the government.

Secretary Carlisle's statement that the present tariff is sufficient to support the government is disputed by one on the ground that the administration is compelled to keep the gold reserve intact by issue after issue of bonds. Everywhere it is recognized that more revenue is needed to carry on the business of the nation without appealing to foreigners to buy government bonds.

Increase of internal imports is not favored, though some would like to see a stamp tax and others a tax on beer. The needed revenue should come from imports, particularly luxuries, so that the burden would be equally distributed. The United States exports food products, while most of the imports might be classed as luxuries.

In the interviews obtained by the Times-Herald yesterday, several merchants declared that they would not favor a general advance in taxes on imports, but would rather the duties were limited to tea, coffee, sugar, imported cigars and other luxuries. Only a few Democrats hold that free trade is best for the country. S. P. McConnell, president of the Iroquois club, though he considers a high tariff to be vicious, holds that Mr. Cleveland's policy of gold monometallism will compel the government to increase the duties on imports in order to pay the debts of the nation.

While another issue of gold bonds is advocated by Chicago men, the bankers generally believe the present embarrassment is only temporary.

Lee Oliver has been arrested at Lakeview, Oregon, by Neut Gordon, charged with having robbed the Aver-Klamath stage on the night of Dec. 4th, on the Topeka grade.

NEWS NOTES.

Mrs. Graham, editress and proprietress of the Bellevue Herald, is in Boise, Idaho. She takes a live interest in the contest now on before the supreme court involving the validity of the acts creating Blaine and Lincoln counties. She hopes to see those acts declared unconstitutional.

St. John, Kan., News: Elders Lyon and Anderson, who have been in St. John for the past seven or eight months, left Monday night for near Topeka where they will continue their mission work. They made many friends during their sojourn in the city.

A special from Silver City, Dec. 19, to the Idaho Statesman says: The sudden disappearance of young Richards, of Reynolds creek, still remains a mystery. The entire country has been scoured but no trace of him has been found.

For the past few years deer have been increasing rapidly on the Gilman cattle range, commencing a few miles southeast of Fossil, Or., and the settlers have been looking forward to good shooting, but their hopes are doomed to disappointment, as a party of sl-washes moved in this season and killed thirty-five head, a number equal to the increase of several years.

The unoccupied land in the vicinity of Grapeland, the ownership of which is still in dispute as between the Southern Pacific company and the government, is again being taken up by squatters, and within the last few weeks as many as fifteen or twenty cabins have been built, and they are all occupied by people intent on obtaining possession of a quarter section of land.—San Bernardino Times-Index.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Link, residents of Whittier, went to Los Angeles last Wednesday to visit their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Hyer, on Central avenue near Nadeau Park. They started home in a buggy, and after going a short distance, they turned back. Just as they reached the railroad at Nadeau Park, about 8 o'clock, the Santa Fe train from Redondo struck the buggy, throwing Mr. and Mrs. Link about 100 feet, killing them instantly. Mr. Hyer who lives near heard the train stop and went to the spot to ascertain the cause and found the mangled bodies of his wife's parents. Mrs. Hyer was notified of the accident and when she arrived her grief was pitiful.

Salmon Recorder: Robert Bell arrived in town Saturday from an extended trip to the Middle Fork country. He brought 200 carats weight of beautiful opals. Mr. Bell sent some of the gems to Tiffany & Co., the well known jewelers of New York, and they pronounced them genuine fire opals. Several of the stones were also sent to Denver to the care of Henry E. Wood, the assayer, who submitted them to a prominent lapidary and gem expert to be cut and valued, and he pronounced them equal to the finest Mexican fire opals and valued them at \$5 a carat. The find is located on a tributary of Big Camas creek. Mr. Bell thinks the field over which the gems may be found is very extensive and predicts that some important discoveries will be made in this line next season.