

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—For the first time since the present struggle in Cuba began, this government has given permission to the customs officials to clear for Cuba a vessel loaded, according to the manifest, with munitions of war, presumably for the insurgent army.

Yesterday the secretary of the treasury received a telegram from the attorney of the owners of the Dauntless at Jacksonville, stating that they would apply to the collector of customs at Jacksonville for clearance to a Cuban port with a cargo of arms, but the oaths required by the statutes would not be taken. The question was asked whether under these circumstances the papers would be issued. Later a telegram was received from the collector at Jacksonville stating that an application to clear the Dauntless for Neuviñas, Cuba, with a cargo of arms had been made and asking for instructions. This morning the secretary replied substantially as follows: If the master of the vessel, and owners, shippers and consigners of the cargo, comply fully with the laws and regulations concerning the manifest and take the oaths required, you may grant clearance to Neuviñas, Cuba. The oaths must be taken and subscribed in writing as required by sections 4,197, 4,298 and 4,200, Revised statutes."

The port named as the destination is on the northern coast of Cuba and is occupied by the Spanish forces. Treasury officials, therefore, are of the opinion that the oaths required will not be taken.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 30.—No application has been made for clearance by the masters of the Dauntless, W. A. Biehe, the owner of the boat, says it has gone on a wrecking tour and will not be back for several days. It is believed the boat now is off on a filibustering trip.

Application has been made by the agent of the steamer Commodore for clearance with arms and ammunition to Cienfuegos, Cuba. The application has been wired to Washington.

WORCESTER, Mass., Dec. 31.—Fire broke out early this morning in Cromton block this city. The blaze for a time threatened to burn through to Front street, taking in Colonial hall, Front street theater and Piper's block at the corner of Main street, but was checked about 4 a. m., and confined to Compton's block. The loss is \$75,000.

BEDFORD, Ind., Dec. 31.—Mrs. Geo. Page, aged about 60 years, was mysteriously shot and mortally wounded at her home, three miles west of here, at noon yesterday. She was sitting at a window when the first shot was fired. Frightened, she started to run, when the second shot struck her in the back. She was thought to have some money, and it is supposed robbery was the motive. Bloodhounds are on the trail of the murderers.

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 30.—Attorney General Carr has given an opinion that the quarantine against Utah sheep established by Governor McIntire remains in force until his proclamation is rescinded by executive order. Utah sheepmen have been preparing to

invade Colorado with the flocks on the expiration of McIntire's term, January 21, under the impression that the quarantine would expire on his retirement. It is understood they will abandon their intention, as they have no wish to violate the law.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 31.—A densely heavy fog, which has hung over this section several days, was greatly increased today. At 11 o'clock it was almost as dark as night. The fog proved disastrous to the telegraph lines. Communication was maintained with distant points only with the greatest difficulty.

MONMOUTH, Ill., Dec. 31.—At a meeting of the Monmouth presbytery of the United Presbyterian church Rev. J. G. Stewart of this city was deposed from the ministry and also from church membership. Owing to the peculiar features in connection with this case much interest has been manifested in church circles as to the final disposition. About two years ago Mr. Stewart was a prominent divine of the United Presbyterian faith, doing service as an evangelist. Suddenly he espoused the cause of miraculous, or faith cure, healing through prayer. The church reprimanded and admonished in vain. Several trials ensued, resulting in his suspension from the ministry.

Last fall he made application before the Illinois synod for reinstatement. That body referred the case back to the Monmouth presbytery which was unanimous for expulsion.

For the past year Mr. Stewart has been engaged in the formation of what is known as the Full Bible church which advocates his peculiar doctrine. He has organized a church at St. Louis and one in this city. He has also sent out several foreign missionaries.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 31.—The dead body of Mr. Joseph B. McCullagh, chief editor of the Globe-Democrat, was found at 6:30 this morning lying on the stone pavement beneath the window of his room in the residence of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Kate Manion, 3,837 west Pine street. It is supposed he flung himself from the window. His skull was badly crushed and the body otherwise injured.

A Post-Dispatch extra has the following:

Dr. C. H. Hughes, his physician, said: "Mr. McCullagh was tired of living and killed himself. He gave no premonition of suicide during his illness. I saw him a little while last evening. He said he felt sleepy and gave me to understand that he wanted to be left alone. His brain was affected but his intellect was all right. He never gave any signs of mental break down during his illness. He suffered from profound nervous exhaustion, complicated with recurring kidney trouble. He also had an asthmatic affection. The late campaign undermined his health."

The Post-Dispatch: "Mr. McCullagh's illness came upon him shortly after the close of the late Republican national convention. It took the form of acute asthma, complicated with nervous depression. When he passed

through the acute stage he found himself slow in recovery. His limbs had lost their vigor, his arms were numb and there were premonitions that the brain had been under a shadowy pall. McCullagh would not admit that he was failing, either physically or mentally. He insisted on managing his newspaper from his bedroom. All through the day he sat in an arm chair wrapped in blankets, received reports from the subordinates and gave them orders for the conduct of the paper."

The theory of suicide is not accepted by all McCullagh's friends. It is believed by many that he had an attack of asthma during the night and in the struggle for breath threw up the window to obtain air, and in his weak condition he tottered and fell out.

Joe B. McCullagh was born in Ireland and with his brother came to this country in his youth. His first newspaper work was done in Cincinnati as a reporter and correspondent of the Enquirer. Later he went to Chicago and took the managing editorship of the Chicago Republican, succeeding Charles A. Dana. He occupied this position until shortly after the Chicago fire when he went to St. Louis and took the editorship of the St. Louis Globe which later consolidated with the Democrat and became the Globe-Democrat.

No writings were found in McCullagh's room explaining his act or leaving instructions regarding his affairs.

It is definitely known that McCullagh committed suicide. He has been quite melancholy the five days past.

Just before midnight his sister-in-law, Mrs. Manion, went into his room to enquire how he was, and found the gas streaming from the burner and McCullagh in an unconscious condition. She immediately stopped the flow of gas and aroused McCullagh.

This morning, after his body was discovered, the gas was again found flowing almost at full force. The conclusion is reached, therefore, that after his sister-in-law had left him for the night, he deliberately turned the gas on again, but finding death too slow by that means, he opened the window and plunged headlong to the pavement.

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—The Herald says: The X-ray yesterday has given a glimmer of light to eyes that were sightless for ten years. The subject of the test was John F. Martin, who, by submitting to experiments as a substitute for Charles Broadway Rouse, has become known as "Mr. Rouse's Man." Martin has submitted to a succession of tests, perhaps half a hundred. Two attendants led him to the office of Dr. David R. Edson. The blind man, although he had grown accustomed to the experiments, was visibly nervous as he was placed in front of the apparatus. The fluoroscope was placed at his eyes and the X-ray turned on. There was an instant of vicious snapping of the current, then absolute stillness, as all in the room strained to watch the face of the man in front of the electric glare. At length Dr. Edson said, "Do you see anything?"

"No," answered Martin. His lips had scarcely framed the reply when there rang from him:

"I can see—I can see light," and the