

CAPTAINS PLEAD GUILTY.

UNEXPECTED CONCLUSION OF THIS COURT-MARTIAL.

Meeks and Bleecker Will Maintain Their Former Plea, Although Still Maintaining Their Technical Innocence of the Charge of Censuring a Superior Officer.

The court-martial of Capt. William F. Meeks and Capt. Andrew D. Bleecker, upon the charge of censuring their superior officer, Major Clinton H. Smith, was concluded in an unexpected manner this morning.

It is difficult for us who were not at San Juan Hill to appreciate the feelings of those officers and men of the Seventy-first Regiment who were present at the trial.

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BOY SHOT BY HIS PLAYMATE.

He May Die, and Six-Year-Old Harold Frederick Is a Prisoner.

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THE SUN'S COPY OF THE TREATY.

Some Remarks About It by a Washington Newspaper.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The Washington Times will to-morrow morning publish the following:

"The most notable achievement of a year crowded with stirring events and consequently remarkable for evidence of journalistic enterprise, was the publication of the Times yesterday morning through the splendid news service of the Paris peace treaty, translated from the Spanish and cabled direct from Madrid.

These things all happened principally because the Times was not and, happily, is not a member of the newspaper trust which the Chicago Associated Press, to which the other Washington papers are tied hand and foot.

ROOSEVELT NEAR A CHOICE.

MAJOR AVERY D. ANDREWS MAY BE TEMPORARY ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

Gen. Greene Still the Most Prominent Man in Col. Roosevelt's Mind for State Superintendent of Public Works and Nothing Will Be Settled Until He Gets Here.

OSTON, Dec. 20.—Governor-elect Roosevelt authorized The Sun to-day to say that the story which appeared in a Brooklyn newspaper this afternoon to the effect that Major Avery D. Andrews would certainly be appointed Adjutant-General was not true.

SUNK OFF CONEY ISLAND.

Only a Protruding Mast to Indicate Where Was the Sloop or Schooner?

The Coney Island police reported to the Brooklyn Central Office last night that James McFarland and Charles Clarkson, employed on the old Iron Pier, had observed the mast of a vessel, supposed to be a sloop, protruding from the sea about five miles off the pier.

MR. LONG MAY RESIGN, TOO.

HE IS ANXIOUS TO GET OUT OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

Washington Life Is Not Congenial to Him and He Is Separated from His Family—Secretary Bliss Admits His Resignation Indirectly—Guesses as to His Successor.

TO BUILD TORPEDOES FOR USE BY BALLOON TO FRANCE.

Government Contracts Said to Have Empowered the Fishers to Make Them.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—The Daily Mail says it has learned that the acquiring of the shipyard at Newport News by Vickers' Sons & Maxim is a condition precedent to their fulfilling the contract allotted to them by the United States Government for the construction of torpedoes, which would have been given to the Schwartzkopfs of Kiel but for the anti-German feeling in the United States.

KANSAS 'POPS' STRIKE BILL.

Sweeping Reductions in Freight and Express Rates and Telegraph Tolls.

TORPEA, Dec. 20.—The legislative committee empowered to draft a bill regulating railroad charges in Kansas completed its work to-night. The special session of the Legislature will convene to-morrow, and the Populist caucus to-morrow night will confirm the committee's work.

PAY OF THE PEACE COMMISSION.

Its Members and Their Assistants Obligated to Pay Their Own Personal Expenses.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—It was learned to-day that the American Peace Commissioners and their assistants have been obliged to pay all their personal expenses out of the compensation allowed them by the President.

IOWA DEMOCRATS DROP BRYAN.

They of the Free Silver Cry, They Will Try State Issues Next Year.

DES MOINES, Dec. 20.—The Democratic party of Iowa will drop the 16 to 1 issue and devote itself to State issues in the next campaign. This was determined at a conference attended by about fifty of the leading Democrats of the State to-day.

SIX KILLED ON CHILCOCK PASS.

Snow Slide Wipes Out a Camping Party on Shore of Crater Lake.

SEATTLE, Dec. 20.—The news is brought by the steamer Alki to-day of the loss of six lives on the Chilcock Pass by a snow slide on Dec. 9.

SKIPPER AND TEAM UPSET.

Rescued by B. and O. Tug While Ferryboat Brought at Launching a Lifebot.

Capt. John R. Morris of the schooner Maria Pierson, which is at anchor on the flats off Robbin's Reef Light, was capsized in the swell of a passing State Island ferryboat while returning from St. George to the schooner late yesterday.

WHO BLEW UP THE MAINS?

Boston Democrats Ask That the Matter Be Referred to Arbitration.

BOSTON, Dec. 20.—The Young Men's Democratic Club is circulating for signatures a paper bearing a resolution demanding that the matter of the explosion of the mains of the City of Boston be referred to arbitration.

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The Rev. George Merrill, D. D., Unanimously Chosen by the Trustees.

The trustees of Colgate University, at Hamilton, N. Y., held their semi-annual meeting last night at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, and unanimously elected to the Presidency of Colgate, which has been vacant for over six years, the Rev. George Merrill, D. D., now pastor of the First Baptist Church at Newton, Mass.

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