



MONDAY EVENING, DEC. 31, 1900.

THE OLD year will expire tonight. To the young it has been a long; to the old, a short one. To some it has brought joy and gladness, to more, gloom and sadness.

As no American soldiers are shot or wounded by the Filipinos, that is, according to the official reports of recent military operations against them, and as looting in the as yet unravaged portions of the Philippine Islands is plentiful, many people think it strange that bounties should be proposed for soldiers to go there, especially as there are so many unemployed men in this country.

THE CHINESE minister at Washington says he is puzzled by the different and contradictory dispatches received here from his country. He may well be, and as he is an intelligent man, he doubtless knows that everybody else is.

THE Boers seem to be having their own way now, coming and going as they please and picking up all the British soldiers they meet with, except the large armies, which they either break through or circumvent as they choose.

THE GAZETTE tomorrow will cut another notch in its time stick, and enter upon the one hundred and second year of its strange, eventful age.

FROM WASHINGTON.

According to Minister Conger's dispatches the terms made by the joint note are unconditionally accepted to although the decree commands China's representatives to attempt the obtaining of a modification in some respects.

Archdeacon Farrar, in a sermon at Westminster Abbey, warned England that early in the new century she would have to meet a combination of other powers.

A cabinet crisis in Spain is imminent, owing to differences among the members. Denmark, it is stated in Copenhagen, will sell her West India Islands to the United States or nobody.

Southern Railway Appointments. The Southern Railway Company announces the following appointments, effective January 1.

The Century Magazine for January has been received from its publishers, in New York. Its contents are: Cole's Engraving of Old English Masters, A Comedy of Conscience, Storm Song of the Norsemen, The United States Patent Office, Aftermath, The Helmet of Navarre, The Orient, Running the Canons of the Rio Grande, Hamlet's Castle, How Darest Thou Wait, The Man Who Went With the Place, The Wolf, Shadow and Sunlight in East London, The March of Progress, "Under the Sun," Examples of American Portraiture, Stephen Phillips, What the Government Costs, Her Mountain Lover, Besieged in Peking, Some Americans Abroad, Topics of the Time, and in Lighter vein.

General Miles says many of ex-Secretary Alger's statements respecting him are absolute falsehoods, and that he will prove them to be so, but only at a convenient time.

Senator from the former, and that Mr. Addicks will be elected from the latter State, as both have the money requisite to effect that purpose, and money makes Senators as well as mares go nowadays.

The funeral of the late Saml. Macdonald, also of Auditor Morris, took place this afternoon at 2 o'clock, under the auspices of the St. Paul's R. C. Church, Rev. F. Walden Myer, assistant rector of the Christian P. E. Church, conducting the services. The remains will be taken to Baltimore where they will be cremated.

The family difficulties of Robert Burton Rodney, a retired paymaster of the navy, and his wife of less than two months were given a public airing today in the hearing of the suit of Miss Elizabeth Cole, cousin and companion of Mrs. Rodney, against Mr. Rodney for \$97 back pay. Miss Cole, heavily veiled, and Mr. Rodney were present.

Stocks were quoted as strong here today, and so were wheat and corn, and cotton was steady.

Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching, the Chinese peace commissioners, yesterday, in Peking, notified Senor De Cologan, the Spanish minister, and dean of the Diplomatic Corps, that the government had agreed to the demands of the powers as set forth in the preliminary note.

The Boer raiders have isolated Kimberly. Provisions are at famine prices, and the place is practically again in a state of siege. Lord Kitchener reports that the Boers have captured the British post at Helvetia. Fifty British were killed and wounded and 200 taken prisoners.

Raid on the London financial market are expected as a result of the suspension of the London and Globe Finance Corporation.

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ALEXANDRIA IN 1900. Another year has rolled around and has brought with its close the close of the century and added another chapter to the history of Alexandria. Let all hope that the new century may bring renewed blessings, that peace and plenty may be vouchsafed by a kind Providence, and that old Belle Haven may live long and prosper.

The wholesale grocery and provision merchants report about the same volume of business as last year. In some instances there was a falling off, while in others there was an increase, which "evened things up." This is one of Alexandria's largest branches of trade and this city is a supply center for a large territory.

The retail grocery business shows little change as compared with last year. The dealers who presented their goods in the most attractive ways, but the volume increased but little. The sale of high-priced fancy groceries is hardly as large as that of a few years ago.

The grain and flour trade shows an increase. The flouring mill here purchased twice as much grain this year as it did last, and brought it from a much greater distance than heretofore, while it made and sold twice as much flour and over a much larger territory.

The general commission business was larger this year than for some time and farm products, poultry, game, etc., came here from a greater distance. Good prices were secured and general satisfaction was given.

The wholesale business in drugs, paints, oils, etc., this year was the largest in the city's history and the territory supplied by Alexandria with this line of goods exceeds that of any other branch of trade, extending north and south, east and west.

The ice business continues on the increase, and during the hot spell in August this city supplied points far south as South Carolina, and through the energy of the Alexandria dealers preserved ice famines in several Virginia and other southern cities.

The leather trade, an important item in the business of the city, shows no material change. Large quantities of leather made in the North Carolina bark region at tanneeries which the Alexandria dealers are directly here and sold all over the country.

The shoe factories have been kept busy throughout the entire season, and greatly increased their outputs. The Alexandria makers meet with ready sale, and stand well in the market.

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used in Alexandria this than last year, but the outside sales have not materially increased. The mills have been kept quite busy turning out work for use in this city, Washington and elsewhere, the Alexandria dealers having secured a number of good contracts after lively competition.

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number of large and small boats have been built or rebuilt there. Most of the mechanics have had work during the greater part of the year, though, as a rule, wages have not been advanced.

The river trade shows a fair increase, as ascertained from statements of the agents of the steamboat lines who reported heavier freights both up and down the river. The river country people know that Alexandria is both a good buying and selling market, and this should increase as the river counties develop.

A severe blow to Alexandria was the shutting down of the Hill cracker bakery, one of the oldest manufacturing in this city. This factory a few years ago was absorbed by the "trust," which to build up a larger concern in a northern city closed the Alexandria bakery.

The number of persons engaged in various branches of business seem to lack enterprise and to make no special efforts to increase their trade, being apparently content to stand in their stores and wait for customers.

The number of alarms of fire and the time of service during each month as furnished by Engineer Bantz of the Hydrantion Fire Company is as follows: January, 8 alarms, 2 hours and 15 minutes service; February, 10 alarms, 30 minutes service; March, 10 alarms, 30 minutes service; April, 2 alarms, 1 hour and 15 minutes service; May, 2 alarms, no service; June, 4 alarms, 45 minutes service; July, 1 alarm, no service; August, 2 alarms, 2 hours and 15 minutes service; September, 2 alarms, 30 minutes service; October, 3 alarms, no service; November, 2 alarms, no service; December, 6 alarms, 2 hours and 45 minutes service. Total amount of time of service, 11 hours and 15 minutes. Total number of feet of hose used, 7,950 feet.

The report of Engineer Wood of the Columbia S. F. E. Co., is as follows: January, 9 alarms, 2 hours and 15 minutes service; February, 3 alarms, 2 hours and 45 minutes service; March, 2 alarms, 2 hours and 55 minutes service; April, 3 alarms, 1 hour and 45 minutes service; May, 2 alarms, no service; June, 4 alarms, 45 minutes service; July, 1 alarm, no service; August, 6 alarms, 4 hours and 20 minutes service; September, 2 alarms, 4 hours and 40 minutes service; October, 3 alarms, 1 hour and 45 minutes service; November, 6 alarms, 3 hours and 30 minutes service; December, 6 alarms, 3 hours and 30 minutes service. Eight thousand six hundred feet of hose were used.

The deaths occurring in Alexandria (in which is included the persons who died at the almshouse) numbered 133 for the year 1900, which is 13 less than in 1899. The number of deaths, sex and color, was as follows: White, males 104; females 88; colored, males 77; females 83; total, white, 193 colored, 160; total, 353. The number of deaths, sex and color, was as follows: White, males 104; females 88; colored, males 77; females 83; total, white, 193 colored, 160; total, 353.

The amount of fines collected in the Mayor's Court during the calendar year was \$2,408, \$813 less than last year. The number of arrests during the year was 1,124, as against 957 last year. The number of lodgers accommodated at the station house was 2,120. There were 2,698 last year.

The business of the post-office has made a slight increase over that of the preceding year in the postal department but a large increase in the money order office. Taking this as an index, shows that the business of the office is on the move.

During the year the number of persons sent to jail was 184 of whom 34 were white males and 150 colored males. Of these 119 were sent to the chain gang, 7 were United States prisoners, 12 were insane. The number of females was 6.

The Clerk of the Corporation Court during the year issued 323 marriage licenses as against 318 last year. The number of bonds recorded by the Clerk of the Corporation Court during the year was 501 as against 516 last year.

In the Corporation Court there were 19 chancery suits instituted, 24 common law suits, 25 writs admitted, 13 administrators were appointed, and 46 chancery and amended charters granted. Last year 44 charters were granted.

The business of the customs house shows a falling off. The duty and tonnage tax collected was \$78,750 as against \$65,522 last year. The number of coastwise entries at this port was 465 as against 504 last year. The number of marine papers issued was 93—5 more than last year. The principal import brought to this district was plaster rock.

The Alexandria Light Infantry has increased its membership during the year, and is now one of the crack companies in the Seventeenth regiment. The company has a large and attractive armory and is noted for its social features. The fire department continues to be in a flourishing condition, all the companies being well equipped. The engines and trucks are in good condition and are kept so and the men are always on the alert.

There are now 2,778 taxers of water, an increase during the year of 29. The mains have been extended one square on Henry street between Princess and Orsonico and so practically gridiron the city. A number of the fire plugs have been replaced by the property of the water company is kept up well, all necessary improvements are made and a large boiler will soon be placed in the power house to run its new engine.

The Old Dominion Boat Club is one of the most progressive organizations of its kind in the State. It owns a handsome house on the river front and is thoroughly equipped with boats of all kinds and a handsome new barge. Alexandria has 19 licensed physicians, 4 dentists and 18 lawyers.

Alexandria has 37 fire insurance companies licensed and represented by agents, and 6 fire insurance companies. Two of these corporations have their headquarters here—this Alexandria and the Fairfax Mutual.

During the year's session the Clerk of the City School Board has issued 2,125 permits to children to attend the public schools. 678 to white boys and 1,447 to white girls, 354 to colored boys and 416 to colored girls. Last year the number of permits issued was 2,123.

The Clerk of the Gas Works reports that there are now 1,034 gas consumers, an increase of 27 over last year. During the year 15 new services were put in buildings and 32 old ones renewed. There are 23 church and hall lamps in use and 22 street gas lamps are lighted every evening in addition to the 53 electric lamps—2 more street lamps than last year. During the year 115 feet of 6-inch pipe was laid on Princess street, and 120 feet of 4-inch pipe was laid on south Fayette street and they now have on hand 785 feet of 4 and 6-inch pipe to be used in renewing old mains during the coming spring. The gas works have been considerably improved during the year.

The chain gang expenses this year reached a new high mark, being only \$400.40, previous three years as follows: 1899, \$649.10; 1898, \$750.52, and in 1897, \$1,482.75. Proportionate reductions also appear in chain gang expenses charged to and paid out of the State treasury.

During the year 1899 680 dog licenses were issued. During the present year 679, which suggests the inquiry, who has the one unlicensed dog? During five years (1892-96) there was an average of 720 licenses issued. During the period in which a discount of 10 per centum was allowed on city taxes \$74,670.05 was the face amount of tax bills paid. During similar period last year \$74,402.50.

The cost of operating the electric light plant during the year 1900 reached high water mark, as it amounted to \$67,000 as compared with 1899, when it was \$59,900, and 1898, \$57,755. The total amount of fuel inspected by Deputy Inspector E. H. Hancock for the year was 28,028, both in barrels and bags, as against 33,913 last year, an increase of 4,115 barrels.

The Gazette completes its one hundred and first volume, and wishes its readers a happy new year.

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAPHIC NEWS. Foreign News. Berlin Dec. 31.—General von Hoepfner, who has been engaged in expeditionary work in China, has been recalled. The reason for the action is not known.

Berlin, Dec. 31.—The Emperor yesterday dedicated a memorial of his own design to the families of officers and men killed in the attack on the Taku forts.

Berlin, Dec. 31.—The condition of the grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar, who has been ill for some days, with pneumonia, is today extremely critical.

London, Dec. 31.—Three small failures are reported today on the stock exchange as a result of the failure of the London and Globe Finance Corporation. Further suspensions are not expected though there is still uneasiness in the west Australian department of the exchange.

Peking, Dec. 31.—In view of the Chinese Emperor's acceptance of the preliminary demands of the powers, an armistice will be declared.

Berlin, Dec. 31.—Gen. Von Waldersee reports under date of December 29 that the Chinese who fled south were overtaken and scattered by a German squadron one hundred miles southwest of Peking. Greuberg's column seized great quantities of ammunition and a number of quick firing and Krupp guns at Si Nan Chon, which had been abandoned by fleeing Chinese.

Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1901, 12:01 a. m. The dawn of the new century is being welcomed here with the ringing of bells and the blowing of steamer whistles in the harbor.

Rome, Dec. 31.—It is rumored here that the Italian cruiser Cariddi has been wrecked on the coast of Egypt.

London, Dec. 31.—The building occupied by the American Diamond Tag Company in Shoe Lane, collapsed today killing two men and injuring seven.

Berlin, Dec. 31.—An anarchist conference in Berlin had been called for today in Berlin has been prohibited. A number of the foreign delegates have been arrested, and the assembly room of the anarchists in Dragone Strasse is now surrounded by the police.

The Situation in South Africa. London, Dec. 31.—The account of the British disaster at Helvetia on Saturday is confirmed. The Boers captured 200 men and killed or wounded fifty. After the attack the Boers withdrew from the place, and are striking south from all the ammunition and provisions. It is feared here that the British guns were captured. News of the reverse caused little excitement in London as the public is growing hardened to these occurrences.

Lord Kitchener today reports the details of the British defeat at Helvetia on December 24. He says that the Boers surprised the garrison at 2:30 a. m., first rushing a 47 gun. The officer commanding at Helvetia sent a patrol at dawn with artillery and they shelled the Boers out of Helvetia and forced them to temporarily abandon the gun. The enemy then formed the prisoners they had taken around the gun and eventually got it away. No ammunition was captured. The British losses, besides the captured, were four officers wounded; eleven men killed and 22 wounded. A column from Mafeking which started to reinforce the Helvetia garrison failed to arrive in time owing to bad roads.

The Evening News today says: "If the country is willing to pay for the folly of its generals and the blundering of its ministers, then the pantomime may proceed. But the country ought to demand a finish of the campaign by guaranteeing the South African republics self-government immediately or by sending sufficient reinforcements to crush the opposition with a quick and heavy hand."

Threatened by Conspirators. New York Dec. 31.—Rev. John Peters, rector of St. Michael's Protestant Episcopal church, has for some time been receiving threatening letters and last week a demand for \$500 in gold was made with a threatened penalty if the money was not paid, that the minister's daughter would be kidnapped. The letter contained instructions for Dr. Peters to proceed Thursday, Dec. 27th, to a secluded path in Riverside Drive, and there to place the gold at the base of a tree. Under direction of the police Dr. Peters went to the spot designated and placed there a dummy package, but no one appeared, though the police who were stationed at points overlooking the place, waited for a long time. It is believed the conspirators learned of the preparations to trap them and took the alarm.

Died From Lodge Initiation. Carbondale, Ill., Dec. 31.—A short time ago E. O. Deason, a saloonkeeper in De Soto, Ill., met a sensational death while being initiated in the order of Knights of the Royal Arch.

During the initiation a puddle was used, having on one side a red and on the other a blank cartridge, and the wrong side was used. The cartridge was discharged, and the wad was driven into Deason's thigh, from which wound blood poisoning set in and death resulted in 18 hours. Suit was brought for damages against the lodge by Mrs. Deason, and on Saturday she secured a verdict of \$1000.

The Storm on the British Coast. London, Dec. 31.—The gale which has done extensive damage in the last few days along the coast and in the Channel still prevails and last night blew with fury over the island. The wind was accompanied with torrential rains, and the midland districts are flooded. In the west of England there have been heavy snow storms. The heavy rainfall has caused many landslides in Gloucestershire and South Wales and in the latter district the railways in many places are blocked. More wrecks are reported along the coast.

Gas Explosion. Wilkesbarre, Pa., Dec. 31.—A hundred miners at the Hallenbeck Colliery of the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Coal Company had a miraculous escape from death in a terrific explosion of gas at 8:30 o'clock this morning. The concussion put out every light in the mine. One hundred men and mules were thrown from their feet and great damage was wrought to the mine. Two men were fatally injured. The cause of the explosion has not been discovered. The officials are now in the mine investigating.

Widow For the Eighth Time. Indianapolis, Dec. 31.—George Boyden, a farmer living near Newburg, committed suicide Saturday night by throwing himself in the cistern near his residence. He was the eighth husband of Mrs. Emily Boyden, and the third in the last 10 years. Two of the husbands died of natural causes, three committed suicide by drowning and three were divorced, two on their own complaint and one on hers. A peculiar coincidence of the eight husbands is that each of the husbands drowned himself in the same cistern.

To Repopulate Palestine. Constantinople Dec. 31.—It is learned that one of the great powers has told the Sultan that the Kaiser is backing the Zionist movement which aims to re-populate Palestine with Jews and that he is receiving and encouraging Zionist leaders. The news has frightened Abdul Hamid, and he has sent a circular note to his representatives abroad notifying them of the rigorous application of a new order to prohibit the settlement of Jews in Palestine.

Sold His Coat for a Last Big Drink. Boston, Dec. 31.—Patrick H. Murray, aged 28, was found dead in his room at the Salvation Army hotel yesterday afternoon. He left a note saying, "Have just taken 15 grains morphine. Have 40 cents left and it will go to last the money. The next word cannot be worse than this." Murray has a sister in Maryland.

NEWS OF THE DAY. The Philippine commission has added to the school bill a provision for the employment of 600 American teachers.

The large phosphate factory of Messrs. L. E. P. Dennis & Son, on James Island, at the mouth of the river, about two miles from Chesterfield Md., was destroyed by fire on Saturday. The loss is about \$30,000.

Charles S. Sparks, a Cincinnati lawyer and follower of Wiggoll, has announced his purpose of bringing up his daughter as an agnostic and teaching her that the Christian religion is false and an enemy of humanity.

Major General Colville, whose resignation has been demanded by the British War Office, has arrived in England to demand a trial by court martial to establish responsibility for the yeomanry disaster at Lindley last May.

Senator Pettigrew's son, who insisted on smoking a cigarette in the lobby of a Kansas City theater on Saturday, despite the rules, got into a fight with an usher and had his jaw fractured. Those who dislike cigarettes wish it had been his neck.

Mrs. Newton McCann of Wilkesboro, N. Y., on Saturday gave birth to four children, two girls and two boys. Eighteen months ago she had triplets. All are well and hearty. Seven children in less than two years is claimed as the world's record.

Cleveland has written an article favoring direct election of the president by the people and a longer tenure of office, with a view to eligibility for a second term. He thinks the present method of electing a president cumbersome, and that there is no excuse for continuing it.

The same bandits who captured the son of Mr. Cudahy, the millionaire pork packer of Omaha, have written him another letter threatening that unless they be withdrawn he offer of reward they will kidnap another of his children. After consultation with the police he decided to let the reward stand.

DeWitt's Little Early Biscuits are dainty little pills, but they never fail to cleanse the system.

DIED. On December 31, at 11 a. m., at the residence of her brother, Mr. Laurence Stabler, CAROLINE STARBUCK-MARSHALL, widow of Edward C. Marshall, in the 42nd year of her age. Notice of funeral hereafter.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE ATLANTIC BUILDING COMPANY OF WASHINGTON, D. C., (incorporated under the laws of Virginia) will be held at the office of Col. F. L. Smith, No. 1225 south Royal street, on THURSDAY, January 17, 1901, at 1 o'clock p. m. GEORGE W. FARRER, President. JOHN B. GEMMOND, Sec. Treasurer. December 29, 1900. (Dec 31 Jan 29, 01)