

ROCKY ROAD FOR BRITISH.

British Armies in South Africa Meet with Disaster.

Long Chase After Dewet Has Met with Disappointment—London Hears of a Boer Defeat at Orange River, But It Is Not Confirmed.

London, Dec. 15.—Lord Kitchener reports that after severe fighting at Nootgedacht, Gen. Clement's forces were compelled to retire by Commandant Delarey with a force of 2,500 men. Five British officers were killed. Other casualties were not reported.

The scene at the war office Friday recalled those witnessed in the early stages of the war. A constant stream of excited people filled the lobbies, all seeking details of the disaster. The absence of the names of any of the officers of the Northumberland fusiliers in Gen. Kitchener's dispatch leads to the foreboding that four companies of the fusiliers are in the hands of the Boers. The war officials evidently expect a heavy casualty list but they are hopeful, from the fact that the dispatch does not mention the capture of the Northumberland, that such a great catastrophe has been escaped.

Orders were issued at Aldershot, Malta and other military centers to dispatch all the available mounted infantry to South Africa.

Dewet's Break Through British Lines. Maseru, Dec. 18.—It appears that Dewet's force was twice repulsed before it broke through the British lines in the neighborhood of Taban N'Chu. In the third attack Dewet led in person. With a few determined men he charged and broke the British lines, the rest of the command following. He was forced, however, to leave in the hands of the British a 15-pounder and 16 wagons with ammunition and stores. Commandant Haabroek, with a command and two guns, tried to get through Springkantsnek but was driven back, losing 40 men.

Boers Capture 107 British Prisoners. London, Dec. 18.—Gen. Kitchener, in a dispatch received by the war office, confirms the Associated press dispatches from Alivalnorth, Cape Colony, of Sunday, announcing the capture by the Boers of a detachment of Brabant's horse near Zaaron, Orange River Colony, and says 107 men were made prisoners on that occasion.

SUPPLIED WITH "SINEWS."

The Boers, It Is Declared, Have Plenty of Ammunition and More Money Than They Can Spend.

Chicago, Dec. 17.—James J. Archibald, the war correspondent, has just returned from the Transvaal. He says: The Boers have more money than they can spend, as they worked the British mines for the eight months of the war. The war is costing the British, on an average, \$400,000 a day, all of which is becoming a debt. It is upon this great debt that the Boer leaders rely to help them gain terms. Gen. Botha said to me that they could keep up the war for seven years, just as the American colonists did during the revolution, and that if they could win in that period they would consider the time well spent. The Boers have supplies enough for at least three years, and are continually capturing supplies from the British. They have more ammunition than they can use and can get more any time through Portuguese territory.

EASY FOR BANK ROBBERS.

As Hope, an Indian Village, a Safe Was Cracked by Two Men and \$15,000 Carried Away.

Shelbyville, Ind., Dec. 19.—Kennedy's bank, at Hope, south of here, was entered at two o'clock Tuesday morning, the safe blown open with nitroglycerine and \$15,000 carried off by two men who were seen to leave the building by the night operator in the telephone exchange. The robbers had a confederate posted outside with a carriage, in which all escaped. Hope is only five miles from Flat Rock, where the safe in the post office was blown open early Monday morning and \$200 taken. It is presumed that the operators in both cases are the same.

FOUND RICH FORESTS.

Expeditious Returns from the Barren Lands of Northern Canada, Having Traveled Five Thousand Miles.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 15.—Prof. J. W. Tyrell, the celebrated explorer of Canadian wilds, has returned from an expedition through the barren lands of northern Canada. He traveled over 5,000 miles on the tour. His expedition met with many perils in the long journey to the northwest of Hudson bay. Prof. Tyrell made the important discovery that the barren land generally supposed to be treeless prairie is covered in many places with rich northern forests and there were stretches of timber land 300 miles in extent.

The Haytian Resignation Issue.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The house committee on census, by a vote of 7 to 6, agreed to report the Hopkins resignation bill, leaving the total membership of the house at 337, as at present, and rearranging a number of state delegations. The bill will not be taken up until after the holidays.

FOR TRANSPACIFIC CABLE.

Gen. Greeley and Others Tell Why It Is a Military and Commercial Necessity to This Country.

Philadelphia, Dec. 19.—Government ownership of a Pacific cable was discussed last night by the members of the Manufacturers' club. Brig. Gen. Greeley, chief signal officer, participated in the discussion. T. E. Hughes, of this city, emphasized the military and strategic necessity. He estimated the cost, for 7,750 nautical miles, at \$10,000,000, requiring an earning capacity of \$225,000 a year. The cable tolls of the war department alone, however, it was pointed out, have averaged monthly a rate of more than \$25,000 a year, and at current rates the projected cable need be in operation less than an hour a day to earn the \$225,000.

Gen. Greeley said: "The cable experiences of the war department in connection with the relief of the legations at Peking point clearly to the tremendous disadvantage under which the United States without its own facilities would labor in case of an extended war in the east. An American transpacific cable is a military and commercial necessity if our colonial possessions are to be retained or if American interests are to be safeguarded in Asiatic countries. The great value of such a cable is more especially for the fostering of industrial interests in the new colonies and in order to facilitate commercial enterprise."

NUT-BEARING TREES.

Secretary of Agriculture Will Study the Native Article with a View to Making Them Profitable.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Secretary Wilson has arranged through the department of agriculture for a study of the native nuts of the United States, with a view to making their cultivation profitable in regions to which they are adapted. He says there are hundreds of acres of idle land in this country which in a few years could be made to yield fair returns if planted to nut trees. "Of the varieties now grown at random many are valuable for food, oil, and for general mercantile purposes. Secretary Wilson has planned to collect, propagate and disseminate some of the more promising nuts, and at the same time make a thorough study of the conditions best suited to their growth, as well as the methods of propagation and the handling of the product. At present nearly all of the nuts used in this country for table consumption are imported, and it is believed our soil and varied climate is susceptible of producing a greater yield of a more valuable nature."

ARBITRATION CONFERENCE.

From the Tons of the Addresses Both Representatives of Capital and Labor Oppose Compulsory Arbitration.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Men who, in the past, have bitterly opposed each other in industrial contests, filled Stearns hall at last night's session of the conference on arbitration, which began here yesterday. Both the day and night sessions were taken up with papers read by representatives of capital and labor, looking to the same end, more for striking the balance, as well as the methods of propagation and the handling of the product. At present nearly all of the nuts used in this country for table consumption are imported, and it is believed our soil and varied climate is susceptible of producing a greater yield of a more valuable nature.

THE POLYGAMY PLAGUE.

Epileptical Diseases Says If Mormons Gain More Power Legislation Against Them Will Be Impossible.

Philadelphia, Dec. 19.—A mass meeting of women to protest against Mormon polygamy was held here last night, the principal speakers being Dr. S. Elliott, an Episcopal deaconess in the care of her remarks, said: "Polygamy is spreading with Mormonism. It is not confined to Utah, but exists in Idaho, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming, Nevada and Colorado. If four more states are added to the seven in which the Mormons already have political power it will be impossible to legislate against them." Resolutions were adopted urging congress to take prompt action in favor of an amendment prohibiting polygamy and making its practice punishable by disfranchisement.

Quaintell's Lieutenant Dead.

St. Joseph, Mo., Dec. 19.—William Halley, better known to border fame as "Bill" Halley, chief lieutenant of the noted guerrilla, Quaintell, who during the early part of the civil war served and sacked Lawrence, Kan., died in the state insane asylum here yesterday, aged 52. Halley was born in Louisville, Ky. He had been a resident of this city 25 years.

Ex-Gov. Leedy Quits Name.

Topeka, Kan., Dec. 19.—John W. Leedy, governor of Kansas from 1897 to 1899, has gone to Seattle, Wash., where he will become the Pacific coast representative of a fraternal insurance order.

HARASSED BY REBELS.

Soldiers in the Philippines Are Kept Busy—Insurgents Burn a Village in Davao—First Political Party.

Manila, Dec. 18.—Advices just received from Iloilo, island of Panay, say that the insurgents Saturday night burned a large part of the village of Cabatuna. Assistant Surgeon Frederick A. Washburn, Jr., of the Twenty-sixth volunteer infantry, with 15 men, held the principal buildings. A strong wind was blowing at the time. The Americans sustained no casualties.

Thirty rebels were captured yesterday morning in a suburb of San Pedro Macenti, four miles from Manila, by 25 men of the Twentieth United States infantry and 30 members of the native Manila police, all under Capt. Gaines, assistant chief of police. The force landed from small boats and surrounded the suburb.

The first political party under the American regime is in process of formation. Its principles have been embodied in a platform which will shortly be made public. It is understood that the declarations of the platform give the fullest recognition to American sovereignty and also favor a considerable degree of native autonomy concerning internal and local affairs.

Americans Attacked Bolomen.

Manila, Dec. 19.—Lieut. Herbert L. Evans, of the Forty-fourth volunteer infantry regiment, with 50 men, attacked, December 12, several hundred bolomen and 50 insurgents armed with rifles, occupying an entrenched position at Tomogiga, island of Cebu. The Americans had three men wounded and the enemy lost 12 men killed and many wounded.

AS GROVER SEES IT.

Ex-President Has Broken His Long Silence and Tells About the Situation of the Democratic Party.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 18.—The Atlanta Journal prints an interview with former President Cleveland obtained by a staff correspondent at Mr. Cleveland's home. "In my opinion," said Mr. Cleveland, "the great need of the democratic party is to return to first principles. The democratic party has been fatally disorganized but it sadly needs rehabilitation on purely democratic lines. What is the matter with the party? It has in my humble judgment, simply wandered off after strange gods. A large mass of democratic voters saw this before the last election. They remained quiet but when the time came to vote they said: 'This is not democracy,' and refused to support it. As I see it, it is the duty of democrats everywhere to aid in the rehabilitation of the party. With a sincere return to its old-time doctrines the old-time victories of the democratic party will certainly be won."

A Strange Compset.

An interesting and puzzling sight greeted the visitor to Mount Moriah cemetery, Philadelphia. Some 20 years ago three eccentric men of wealth put up in the most secluded corner three tall shafts of rough hewn granite. They had been friends a long time and they agreed that as each died his shaft was to be broken and the fragments left where they fell. The second of this trio has just passed away and his column has been shattered, as was that of his former friend, years ago. No fence incloses the strange monuments, and no names are carved on the granite.—Chicago Chronicle.

Terrapin for Slaves and Hogs.

Judge Page, of Maryland, commenting in a paragraph in the New York Press to the effect that in colonial times leasers of slaves were obliged by law to feed the negroes on terrapin at least twice a week, states that this was no studied compliment to the black men, for in those days the finest diamond backs were regarded as food fit only for slaves and hogs. In feeding them to the latter the terrapins were chopped up with a spade and served raw.—Chicago Chronicle.

The School for Him.

Doctor (to patient)—What ails you? Patient—Indeed, I don't know. I only know that I suffer. "What kind of life do you lead?" "I work like an ox, I eat like a wolf, I am as tired as a dog, and I sleep like a horse."

Greenshoe Securities.

A small parish in Zurich canton has recently been endeavoring to procure a loan of \$7,500, but is unable to offer any security other than the village cemetery and a suicides' morgue. Both of these being in use, the negotiations have hung fire, the bank declining to take in pawn such grewsome pledges.—N. Y. Sun.

Shamrocks for Soldiers' Graves.

A thousand packets of shamrock seed, the gift of a resident of Cork to the duke of York were lately sent to South Africa. Their contents will be sown upon the graves of Irish soldiers.—N. Y. Sun.

Cruelty to Animals.

Hubbard—Don't you think those young kittens should be drowned? Wife—I don't think I will be necessary, dear. I have given them to the children to play with.—Harper's Bazar.

FOR AN OPEN WATERWAY.

Columbia Would Exercise Sovereignty Over the Panama Canal, Guaranteeing Free Transit to All Nations.

Colon, Colombia, Dec. 19.—A minister of Colombia will shortly proceed to Washington, there to enter into negotiations for opening the canal in course of construction through the isthmus of Panama, Colombia reserving national sovereignty and guaranteeing free transit to the nations of the world.

Overmyer a Candidate for Senator.

Topeka, Kan., Dec. 19.—David Overmyer has announced his candidacy for the fusion caucus nomination for United States senator.

First Time in 400 Years.

San Juan, P. R., Dec. 17.—For the first time in 400 years, the people of Porto Rico are not subject to military rule. December 15 was the date chosen by the president and congress for withdrawing from the island all United States soldiers excepting the small force needed to care for the permanent fortifications.

The Bank of Cashiers, I. T. Hobbs.

Guthrie, Ok., Dec. 18.—The bank at Cashier, Ok., was entered and \$5,400 secured by burglars Saturday night. It is supposed to be the work of the gang that has been operating in other small Oklahoma towns.

A Fire at Joplin.

Joplin, Mo., Dec. 18.—A fire, consuming \$20,000 worth of property, was started yesterday morning in a row of frame buildings at the corner of Joplin and Sixth streets. The business firms which sustained losses were the Adams Express company, Bruggers' saloon, H. E. Davis Commission company, Vaughan Bros' restaurant and Lebow's rooming house. Each was totally destroyed. Small insurance.

Senator Sullivan Marries.

Washington, Dec. 19.—United States Senator William V. Sullivan, of Mississippi, and Mrs. Marie Newman Atkins, of this city, were united in marriage yesterday afternoon at the parsonage of St. Stephen's church.

The strike at the Natick college at Shamokin, Pa., has ended, the 1,200 men returning to work. The company granted the men concessions.

Associate Supreme Court Justice George C. Ludlow, ex-governor of the state of New Jersey, died yesterday at his residence in New Brunswick. "W. J. Bryan announces that he will edit and publish a weekly newspaper at Lincoln, Neb., to be called the Commoner. It will advocate the principles of the Kansas City platform."

New Minister to Turkey.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The president has nominated John C. A. Feishman, of Pennsylvania, now minister to Switzerland, to be United States minister to Turkey.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Live Stock.

Kansas City, Dec. 18.—Cattle—Market slow and low; shipping and dressed beef steers, \$1.15@1.25; western steers, \$1.20@1.30; native cows, \$1.20@1.30; native stockers, \$1.15@1.25. Hogs—Market lower at \$1.20@1.35. Sheep—Market 19 to 20c lower; sheep, \$1.00@1.10; lambs, \$1.00@1.10. Chicago, Dec. 18.—Cattle—Good to choice steers, \$5.00@5.50; stockers and feeders, \$4.00@4.50. Texas fed steers, \$4.00@4.50. Hogs—Mixed and butchers, \$4.00@4.50; bulk of sales, \$4.00@4.50. Sheep—Good to choice wethers, \$1.90@2.10; western sheep, \$1.80@2.00. 4 to 6 year lambs, \$1.00@1.20.

Grain and Provisions.

St. Louis, Dec. 18.—Cattle—Native steers, \$5.00@5.50; stockers and feeders, \$4.00@4.50. Texas and Indian steers, \$3.00@3.50. Hogs—Pigs and lights, \$4.75@4.85; butchers, \$4.80@4.90. Sheep—Mixed muttons, \$4.75@4.85; lambs, \$4.00@4.50.

Kansas City, Dec. 18.—Sales by sample on track: Wheat—No. 2 hard, 69¢; No. 3 hard, 68¢; No. 2 red, 69¢; No. 3 red, 68¢; No. 2 mixed, 67¢; No. 3 mixed, 66¢; No. 2 white, 68¢; No. 3 white, 67¢; Oats—No. 2 mixed, 34¢; No. 3 mixed, 33¢; No. 2 white, 35¢; No. 3 white, 34¢. Hay—Timothy, \$1.00@1.10; prairie, \$1.00@1.10. Eggs, 6¢ per doz. Butter, 18¢; lard, 22¢; tallow, 15¢; roasters, 15¢; 17¢ each; turkey, 51¢@52¢; ducks, 6¢; geese, 6¢; pigeons, 5¢ per doz. Butter—Creamery, extra fancy, 52¢ per lb.; dairy, 50¢; store packed, 48¢. Potatoes—Home grown, 20¢ per bu.; sweets, 25¢ per bu. Lima beans, \$1.00@1.10 per gal. Green beans, home grown, \$1.00@1.10 per bu. Turnips, 25¢ per bu. Beets, 25¢ per bu. Cabbage, home grown, 25¢ per doz. Onions, white and red globe, \$1.00@1.10 per bu. Cucumbers, 90¢@1.00 per doz. Tomatoes, home grown, \$1.00@1.10 per bu. Navy beans, 22¢ per bu. Summer squash, 40¢ per bu. Hubbard squash, \$1.00@1.10 per doz. Egg plant, 40¢ per doz. Apples, choice, \$1.50@1.75 per bu.

Chicago and St. Louis Cash Grain.

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South Dakota's Freed Distinction.

Sioux Falls, S. D., Dec. 18.—For the third successive year South Dakota has won the proud distinction of having produced more wealth per capita than any other state in the union. The aggregate value of the state's agricultural and mineral products this year is \$108,600,000, of which \$18,000,000 is gold.

FRENZY OF A MOB.

Three Negroes Accused of Killing a White Man at Rockport, Ind., Quickly Swung Into Jail.

Rockport, Ind., Dec. 17.—Two negroes, Jim Henderson and Bud Rowlands, who waylaid, brutally murdered and robbed Hollie Simons, a white barber, early yesterday morning, were lynched in the jail yard by a mob of 1,000 frenzied citizens last night.

Booneville, Ind., Dec. 18.—John Rollin, the third of the colored men implicated in the murder of Hollie Simons, was hung to a tree in the courthouse yard by a mob of about 100 men from Rockport at 6:30 o'clock yesterday evening. Not a shot was fired and everything was conducted as quietly as if the execution had been one under the sanction of the law.

SEVEN LIVES LOST.

Fire at the Freedom State No. 1st School Resulted in the Death of six Women Students Perishing.

Dunkirk, N. Y., Dec. 15.—From the smoldering ruins of the Freedom state normal and training school, which was destroyed by fire at six o'clock yesterday morning, one charred body has been recovered. A revision of the list of missing makes it certain that seven persons perished in the fire, which entailed a property loss of \$200,000. There were 75 young women students in the buildings, of whom six perished. The other victim was the aged janitor.

Grasshopper Area set the Traits.

Wichita, Kan., Dec. 16.—The Southern Kansas and Oklahoma Implement & Hardware Dealers' association has, by resolution, invited the co-operation of nine other state associations to make a fight against trusts which control machinery and the component elements of machinery. They claim to be more the victims of trusts than the consumers.

Chicago Canal People Win.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The rivers and harbors committee has agreed to appropriate \$225,000 for a survey of the 14-foot canal project to connect the great lakes and Mississippi river by way of the Chicago drainage canal and Des Plaines river. There was a fight in committee over it but the canal people won.

Indian Appropriation Bill.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The Indian appropriation bill was completed Monday by the house committee on Indian affairs. It carries something over \$9,000,000. The number of Indian agencies is reduced from 52 to 44, among those omitted being at Quapaw, Indian territory.

Late Details of the Loss of the Alpha—Plecky Seamen Swim Ashore with Lines—Nine Lives Lost.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 19.—Late details of the foundering of the steamer Alpha with the loss of nine lives indicate that the cause of the disaster was primarily due to taking an unusual course into the coaling station at Union bay. Encountering a fierce southeast gale while steaming up the strait, the captain decided to take what is known as the inside passage to Union bay and did not perceive the lighthouse and, suddenly, before a voice of warning from her lookout or forward watch was heard she ran her bow high up amidst the rocky reefs surrounding the island. Plecky seamen volunteered to swim ashore with lines and three were thus made fast to the island. By means of these some 25 members of the crew were landed on the small surface of Yellow rock, but the captain, engineers and others who were later drowned decided to stand by their vessel and endeavor to prevent her from becoming a total wreck. Their efforts resulted only in the sacrifice of their lives.

UNKNOWN INDIAN TRIBES.

Prof. Starr, of Chicago University, Starts on a Trip to Mexico for an Important Investigation.

Chicago, Dec. 17.—Prof. Frederick Starr, of the University of Chicago, has left for a six-months' trip among some of the unknown tribes of Mexico. The Laramones, one of the tribes he expects to visit, are one of the least known peoples on the western hemisphere. Prof. Starr will have the aid of three assistants, a photographer, plaster-worker and a guide. Much of the traveling will be through dense forests and 800 miles of horseback riding will be necessary.

Vanderbilt to Build Great Canal.

Lockport, N. Y., Dec. 17.—The Vanderbilt interests have won and the big power canal from Niagara river to this city, which will cost at least \$60,000,000, will be built. The Vanderbilt proposition includes besides the power canal the construction of a conduit and pumping stations to supply this city with water from Lake Ontario, which is 12 miles distant.

Scottish Carried the Klondike.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 18.—A copy of the Dawson Daily Klondike King of the North for 7 contains a poll of the vote for president in the Klondike district conducted by that newspaper. The vote was Bryan 2,494; McKinley 823.

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PRODUCTION OF THE METALS.

Statistics Showing World's Production of the Two Metals.

United States Was First in Production of Yellow Metal and Second in Silver—Mexico Leads in the Output of the White Metal.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The report of the director of the mint on the production of gold and silver in the United States during the calendar year 1899 shows only slight variation from the approximate figures given out early in the present year. The final figures are \$71,053,400 for gold and \$32,538,700 for silver at its average commercial value during the year. The gold product was the greatest in the history of the country. The principal gains in 1899 over 1898 were in Alaska \$2,234,700, due to the Cape Nome district; Colorado \$2,737,500 and Utah \$1,165,400. The silver product of the United States in 1899 was slightly greater than in 1898, being \$4,764,000 ounces, against \$4,488,000 ounces. The following are the figures by states and territories for the 1899 production:

Table with 2 columns: State/Territory and Silver Commercial value. Includes Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

The Senate Transacted no Business of Importance on the 18th in open session, the entire time being spent in executive session on the Hay-Pauncefote treaty.

The house passed the war revenue reduction bill. The amendment placed in the bill the previous day to tax express receipts was defeated on a yeas and nays vote by 135 to 132. The pension appropriation bill, carrying \$16,125,000, was passed in exactly 15 minutes.

The senate was in open session only an hour on the 17th, the remainder of the legislative day being spent in executive session upon the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. No legislative business, aside from the pure routine, was transacted. It was agreed to take a vote on the treaty on the 20th. In the house an attempt was made to pass a bill to give soldiers and sailors of the civil war, the Spanish war and the war in the Philippines preference in the appointment to and retention in positions in the executive departments of the government, but it was overwhelmingly defeated. Then the private pension bill was passed and a joint resolution to appoint Representative Boutelle (Me.) to the retired list as a captain in the United States navy. A bill was also introduced for the suppression of train robbery.

The senate on the 18th had the Hay-Pauncefote treaty under discussion in executive session. In this session the entire time being spent in executive session. Senator Foraker (O.) made a speech in defense of the treaty and praised Secretary Taft. He also spoke in favor of the neutrality of the canal and the ratification of the treaty. The house devoted the day to District of Columbia business. Most of the time being over a bill to change the terminal facilities of the Pennsylvania railroad.

A NEW CHINESE TERROR.

Tung Fah Siang, It Is Declared, Dictates to the Empress and Controls the Movement of Troops.

Pekin, Dec. 19.—The situation has not improved by the representatives of the powers having reached an agreement, as the scope of the negotiations is limited and the effect is neutralized. The allies have neglected to close the arsenals and factories at Hankow and Shanghai and have failed to check the transmission of supplies and ammunition to the Chinese. Tung Fah Siang thus has every opportunity of rallying and equipping his army. He has secured the position of dictator, terrorized the empress and controls the whole movements of troops. It will be necessary to give the military operations of the allies a wider area.

FOUNDING OF A STEAMER.

Late Details of the Loss of the Alpha—Plecky Seamen Swim Ashore with Lines—Nine Lives Lost.

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