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THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

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THE VEIL UNLIFTED,

South African Theatre of War Still Concealed.

FRENCH ON BOERS' FLANK,

Hints at a Simultaneous Advance of British Columns.

ANOTHER REVERSE FOR BULLER?

Story That He Has Sustained a Serious Defeat—It is Pronounced at Military Headquarters in London as Undeserving of Credence.

LONDON, January 14.—4 A. M.—The veil concealing the theatre of war from the anxious eyes of Great Britain and the rest of the world is still unlifted. It is impossible to doubt that this absolute closing of all the channels of information is due to the censorship, the strictness of which has been redoubled since the landing of Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener, concerning whom nothing has transpired since the announcement of their arrival at Cape Town, four days ago.

The War Office stated at midnight that no further news from the front had been received, and none from any other source has come to hand during the night.

As usual, when news is scarce the rumor mongers have been busy. The latest story floated was that intelligence had reached the headquarters of the Scots Guards that General Buller had again sustained a serious defeat. Inquiry at Wellington barracks showed that while such a rumor had reached there it was neither official nor in any form deserving of credence.

FRENCH MAKES FLANK MOVEMENT

RENSBURG, CAPE COLONY, January 9.—A strong force of British troops advanced this morning, under cover of a brisk artillery fire, and encamped at Slingersfontein, on the Boers' eastern flank. The Boer patrols retired, but subsequently a body of Boers attempted to seize a position threatening communication between the British encampment and Rensburg. The New Zealanders, with brilliant dash, frustrated the attempt. They raced and seized the position first, and fired volleys at the enemy, who retired in the direction of Colesburg.

GENERAL BRITISH ADVANCE?

LONDON, January 13.—The movement of General French's troops in the vicinity of Colesburg is taken to indicate that General Lord Roberts has recognized the importance of General French's objective—namely, to obtain command of both bridges across the Orange river, and has hastened to send him reinforcements.

It is also thought to partially confirm the suggestion that General Buller's plans include synchronous movements in all the spheres of operation.

About 4,000 troops sailed for South Africa this afternoon.

LADYSMITH ABOUT TO YIELD?

VIENNA, January 13.—The Neue Freie Presse to-day published a dispatch from Brussels, saying news has been received there from Pretoria to the effect that the Boers have stormed all the heights around Ladysmith, and that the capitulation of that place is hourly expected.

It is possible that the news received in Vienna by way of Brussels from Pretoria may refer to the fighting of Saturday last, January 6th, when the Boers captured the British trenches three times and were thrice driven out at the point of the bayonet, and to the fact that the Boers occupied one British position all day long, only being driven out of it at night.

FURTHER BRITISH WAR CREDIT.

LONDON, January 13.—The London Sun to-day reports that on the reassembling of Parliament, January 30th, the government will immediately ask for a further war credit of £20,000,000 ($100,000,000).

STIRRING SCENES IN LONDON.

Departure of Volunteers for South Africa—Most Enthusiastic Farewell.

LONDON, January 13.—Though many stirring scenes have marked the departure of the British troops for the front during recents months, to-day's outburst of patriotism on the occasion of the starting of the London volunteers was quite unprecedented since the jubilee.

It is the first time in the history of the country that the British vounteers have been permitted to serve side by side with regulars in real warfare, and the people turned out in hundreds of thousands to fittingly celebrate the event. The crowds thronged the route in such proportions that detachments of the Lord Mayor's Own were engulfed at various stages of the march.

MUSIC AND CHEERING.

Finally the column reached Nine Elms station, bearing numberless traces of the difficulties of the march. The public was excluded from the station building, the final leave-taking being held outside, and the volunteers entrained and departed in a commingling of band music and cheering, and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," "Rule Britannia," and "God Save the Queen."

The Lord Mayor, sheriffs, and councillors, in their state robes, accompanied by many ladies, took another special train for Southampton, to bid farewell to the volunteers, on board the transport Briton. The latter arrived soon after the Lord Mayor's party, and were saluted with ringing cheers from a huge assemblage on the quays, as they boarded the liner.

HER NAME STILL UNKNOWN.

Wrecked Vessel Now Submerged—Many Bodies Visible.

ST. JOHN'S, N. F., January 13.—The name of the vessel wrecked and partially burned on a reef in St. Mary's Bay is still unknown. The weather continued rough to-day, and the fisher folk were unable to board her. She is wholly submerged, and her hull is badly battered.

There is a noticeable improvement in the weather to-night, however, and it is believed that it will be possible to get full news to-morrow. At present the seas are breaking over the ship, and running mountain high against the rocks.

Much wreckage is strewn along the strand, and many bodies, some of them dismembered, are visible. Portions of the boats remain hooked to the blocks, and this is taken to indicate that the boats were swamped in lowering and that their crews perished. Most of the bodies are only half-clothed.

The wind is now off the land, and the wreckage is not coming ashore. Therefore, no knowledge can be gained regarding the ship's cargo or her passengers, if she carried any.

WATCH MAINTAINED.

A watch has been maintained along the cliff ever since the people got there, and fires are kept burning at night, and flags waving by day, as a signal to any boat's crew which may have escaped. It is not considered likely, however, that any succeeded in getting away from the wreck.

Derricks were erected to-day at likely points to lower men down to-morrow to recover the bodies washed up, and if possible to discover the name of the vessel from the wreckage. Divers will be sent from here, if it is found to be impossible to obtain the steamer's name by other means, but nobody now cares to act until instructions are received from the owners.

The recovery and burial of the dead bodies of the ship's company have been ordered by the Marine Department. The cruiser Fiona, from Fortune bay, should reach the scene of the wreck to-morrow. No reports have been received from any localities whither wreckage, bodies, or boats might be expected to drift.

THE KENTUCKY SITUATION.

Republican Threats Declared Mere Bluffs by Leading Democrats.

FRANKFORT, KY., January 13.—The situation in the contests for Governor and the State offices, and the question of what is going to happen when the final result is declared, are to-night fruitful of the most extravagant speculation.

If the adherents of the contestees, the Republican incumbents of the State offices, carry out the line of procedure they now threaten, by refusing to vacate, even in case the Legislature decides in favor of the Democratic contestants, the situation will be serious, and if the statements of some of the men high in the councils of the State are to be credited, this is what they propose to do.

K. J. Hampton, secretary of the Republican State Central Committee, said to-day that the talk of holding an anti-Goebel State convention here next week was purely an invention, but he predicted that several thousand anti-Goebel men from all parts of the State would be here to protest by their presence against unseating Taylor and Marshall, and to sustain them if the Legislature votes to turn them out. He denied that any of those now here are soldiers in citizens' clothes, as charged by the Goebel Democrats.

"NO TROUBLE WILL OCCUR."

James Andrew Scott, one of the attorneys for the contestants in the minor State contests, said to-night:

"The importation of soldiers and thugs here for the purpose of intimidating the Legislature will not work. They are bluffing, and no trouble will occur. As for their threats that they will hold on in spite of the decision by the Legislature, they may do this for a few days, but the courts would recognize the regular State Government, and if Mr. Taylor does not then give in, he will subject himself to prosecution, and all the penalties against usurpation, which I have no idea he will want to encounter."

Most of the Democratic leaders coincide with Scott.

Ex-Governor Bradley and all of the Republican leaders hold that the contest proceedings are being conducted in an arbitrary manner, without regard to the law, and that for these reasons the decision, if adverse to Taylor, should not be binding on him. They file a bill of specifications as to their objections to the trial of contests, and the reasons why the proceedings are all illegal. The sum total of these, according to Governor Taylor's attorneys, brings the case within some of the inhibitions of the fourteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution.

APPEAL FROM ANTI-GOEBELITES.

The Republican State Committee, through its officers and the organization formed by disaffected Democrats during the recent campaign, has issued a statement reviewing the political campaign, and calling upon its constituents for their support. The appeal is issued by "The Honest Democrats," and says:

"The Democratic party has been put in the position of an enemy to the public peace and a menace to popular institutions, with a record of unparalleled outrages during the past year. We are about to enter upon a national campaign. The probable leader in this campaign has made himself the associate and the supporter of the men who were repudiated at the polls. He is to return next week to Kentucky, to aid the conspirators in driving from office men who have been elected. The future is dark with threatened danger of the gravest character."

COTTON FROM THE PHILIPPINES.

General Wheeler Thinks "Insurrection" is Substantially Over.

MEMPHIS, TENN., January 13.—A local cotton firm has received a letter from General Joe Wheeler, now in the Philippines, enclosing a sample of the cotton grown there.

General Wheeler says very little cotton is grown in the Philippines, however, and most of the cotton used in the Manila mills comes from the United States.

Speaking of the insurrection, General Wheeler says:

"I regard the insurrection as substantially over. Had it not been for the action of those who are called anti-imperialists in the United States, who deluded Aguinaldo into the idea that they would secure him independence, it would have been over some time ago. The President of the Filipino Congress, Senor Bautisto, is at this place. He tells me that the Congress and Cabinet are dispersed and Aguinaldo is a fugitive, and this information we have had from several other sources.

"These islands are very rich, and are charmingly delightful. All they require is a good, honest government. It will be a very great advantage to the United States to have our mercantile depots so near the vast population of Eastern Asia."

TAXATION IN CUBA.

Commission to Report Thereon—Removal of Mora.

HAVANA, January 13.—Governor-General Wood will, on Monday, issue an order appointing a commission of three to study and report upon the problem of taxation throughout the entire island.

The removal of Senor Federico Mora, fiscal of the Supreme Court, continues the main topic of discussion in the city. All are apparently coming to the conclusion that the action of the Governor-General is justifiable, the only question being whether Senor Mora should not be prosecuted.

The people, especially the lawyers, have begun to realize that the fact that men who have been allowed to lie in prison for years have not been brought to trial within the past few months is due entirely to the fiscal. One man, who had been fourteen years awaiting trial, had applications on file in Senor Mora's office, asking the reason for his non-arraignment. There are many similar cases, investigation of which will show, if nothing worse, culpable negligence, and absolute inattention to the duties of the office.

THE GEORGIA SCALP-LOCK THERE.

Hilton Trophy Adorned With It, Report to Contrary Notwithstanding.

SAVANNAH, GA., January 13.—When the Hilton Trophy won last fall at the Sea Girt National Rifle contests by New Jersey from Georgia, arrived at Trenton, N. J., recently, it was reported that the [illegible], showing that the trophy had been won by Georgia riflemen, was missing, the inference being that the Georgians, who contested the award of the last match, had removed the scalp-lock by way of protest. Adjutant-General W. S. Stryker, of New Jersey, has written to Captain Postell, of this city, that the report was an error, and that the scalp-lock was found intact with the trophy.

RADICAL CAMPAIGN,

It is Now Fairly Launched by Hanna and Company.

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION,

It Will Not Be a Cut and Dried Affair, Says "Dollar Mark."

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM PLANKS.

Prosperity of the Working People of the Country, and Retention of the Philippines—"Fat-Frying" to Be Begun at Once.

PHILADELPHIA, January 13.—The subcommittee of the Republican National Campaign Committee began to-day the work of laying plans for the presidential campaign, which can now be said to be fairly well under way.

Shortly after 9 o'clock, the committeemen visited Mayor Ashbridge. In the party were Senator Hanna, chairman; "Joe" Manley; H. C. Payne, of Wisconsin; United States Senator N. B. Scott, of West Virginia; Richard Kerens, of Missouri, and Charles Dick, of Ohio, the secretary of the National Committee.

From the Mayor's office the committee went to the exposition buildings, to inspect the auditorium in which the national convention is to be held. All the visitors expressed their satisfaction at the selection of the hall.

CONVENTION NOT CUT AND DRIED.

Senator Hanna, particularly, was much interested in all the arrangements conducted so far by the local committees, and regarding the convention, said that those who imagine it will be a cut and dried affair will be badly fooled.

"Of course, President McKinley will be renominated, and without doubt he will receive every vote in the convention; but when it comes to choosing his running mate and deciding on the platform there is likely to be an abundance of excitement."

During the conference with Mayor Ashbridge, Senator Hanna made the first statement which he has uttered in his capacity as Republican National Chairman on the issues and plans of the coming campaign. He said:

"First, the national issues will be the prosperity of the working people of the country.

"Second, the retention of the Philippines.

PARTY NEEDS FUNDS.

"The Republican party is in pressing and immediate need of funds to carry on the work of the campaign, and it must be begun without a moment's delay. The Democratic party has labor agitators at work throughout the West, and the Republican Campaign Committee finds it necessary to meet them at every point."

BRYAN ON FREE WOOL.

He Has Not Changed His Views—The Philippines—The Palmerites.

COLUMBIA, MO., January 13.—Colonel William Jennings Bryan addressed the students of the University of Missouri here to-night, in the college chapel, before an audience that taxed the auditorium to its utmost.

When asked regarding the report that he had changed his views on the matter of free-wool importation, and had asserted that in behalf of western dealers and manufacturers he would, if elected President, favor a tariff on wool, Mr. Bryan stated most emphatically that he had made no statement whatever to the effect that he had changed his former views on the question.

When asked regarding the Philippine problem, he said that the whole situation reminded him of a looking-glass, in which the American people could see their own views reflected.

"In regard to the gold Democratic party," said Mr. Bryan, "I will say that it will be of little importance in the presidential election. It will make but an insignificant showing, and will scarcely be worthy of consideration. The gold-bugs who are not true Democrats will vote the Republican ticket, while the real Democrats will support the Democratic platform, including the free silver proposition. The greatest difficulty I have experienced of late is the matter of physical endurance, and I at times find it very hard to endure the strain necessitated by so many banquets."

Mr. Bryan spoke on "Pending Problems," and his address covered the broad field of political topics. His remarks showed that he maintained all his former views on the subjects discussed by him to-night. He gave special emphasis to the advantages of an income tax, and spoke hopefully of the enforcement of such a law. He spoke on the power of the American higher courts, and said that it was far less difficult for them to change their constitution than for the people to do so.

FRAUD THROUGH THE MAILS.

Patrons of St. Louis Concern Lose at Least $100,000.

ST. LOUIS, MO., January 13.—The arrest of John W. Baker, head of the firm of John W. Baker & Co., commission brokers, yesterday, on the charge of using the mails to defraud, has developed a surprising condition of affairs.

From complaints in his possession, Chief-Post-Office-Inspector Dice estimates that Baker's out-of-town patrons have lost in the aggregate over $100,000. He thinks the figures mentioned small, and has decided to institute a searching investigation to ascertain the full extent of Baker's operations.

GOULD MONEY IN THE SOUTH.

Large Block of Stock in Cotton-Mill Taken.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., January 13.—The Observer to-morrow will say: "Intelligence was received here last night that George Gould, the New York millionaire, has become a stockholder in the Loray Cotton-Mills, at Gastonia, to the amount of $250,000, and that a check for this amount has been received in Gastonia. It is also stated that another subscription of $150,000 from a northern capitalist has been sent to the promoters of the new mill. These subscriptions, it is believed, will raise the capital stock of the mill to $1,400,000. Contracts for some of the buildings and machinery were given yesterday."

Pro-Boer Meeting in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, January 13.—A pro-Boer mass-meeting was held in the Academy of Music here to-night, under the auspices of the Irish and German-American societies. There were about 2,000 people in attendance, and speeches were made by a number of prominent persons, including judges of the courts and clergymen.

Resolutions were adopted expressing sympathy for the Boers, and asking Congress to do the same; opposing any alliance with any foreign Power, and especially condeming one with England, as "un-American and opposed to the traditions of the republic."

INTERCOLLEGIATE GYMNASTS.

Permanent Organization—University of Virginia Represented.

NEW YORK, January 13.—The Intercollegiate Association of Amateur Gymnasts of America effected a permanent organization at a meeting held in this city to-day. There were representatives present from Yale, Princeton, Columbia, the Universities of Virginia and Pennsylvania, and Haverford College.

The Executive Committee includes Augustus T. Stroud, of the University of Virginia.

FARMING NORTH AND SOUTH.

Negro Labor as Good as the White Labor of Connecticut.

WASHINGTON, January 13.—The Industrial Commission to-day heard the testimony of J. H. Hall, of South Glastonbury, Conn., who owns the extensive peach and plum orchards in Georgia. He described industrial conditions in the South, saying that a lack of thrift was one of the causes for the depression in the farming industry. He said negro labor employed on his plantations in Georgia was as cheap and efficient as white labor in New England.

ILOILO CLAIMS AGAINST US.

Destruction of Property of Foreign Residents During Bombardment.

NEW YORK, January 13.—The New York Export and Import Company has obtained from its Manila agency a number of claims against the United States Government for the destruction of the property of foreign residents during the bombardment of Iloilo and other towns in the Philippines.

One specific claim is from the Swiss house of Hollman & Co., Iloilo, for a quarter of a million dollars. Hon. Hilary E. Herbert, formerly Secretary of the Navy, will, it is said, be engaged to present the claims of the Swiss merchants to the State Department.

DRUMMERS' ANTI-TRUST LEAGUE.

Meeting of Committee on Legislation in Chicago February 12th.

NEW YORK, January 13.—The Board of Managers of the Commercial Travellers' and Hotel-Men's Anti-Trust League held a meeting in this city to-day. It was decided to arrange a meeting of the Committee on Legislation, of which Joseph J. Willett, of Alabama, is chairman, to be held in Chicago February 12th.

Letters accepting membership on the Committee on Legislation have been received, among them one from Clark Howell, of Georgia, who says:

"I thoroughly approve of the objects of the league, and will take great pleasure in co-operating with you for the advancement of the interests served by it."

S. A. L. LOSS AT AUGUSTA.

Recently Purchased Depot-Site Property Burned.

AUGUSTA, GA., January 13.—10:30 P. M. The Harrison Block, opposite the Union Depot, property recently purchased by the Seaboard Air-Line, and occupied by stables, small stores, and negro residences, is on fire.

The fire started in stock-yards filled with cattle.

The property is a perfect tinder-box, but valuable property surrounds it.

Spain, Uncle Sam, and the Late War.

MADRID, January 13.—In the Senate to-day, replying to criticisms of the government's policy toward the United States during the incumbency of the Sagasta Ministry, Senor Gullon, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, declared that the note presented by General Woodford demanded the pacification of Cuba within a short period. Spain, he said, desired the arbitration of the Pope, but unfortunately the United States provoked the war. Senor Gullon concluded by demanding the good will of the Senate on behalf of the Sagasta Ministry, which saw Spain drawn into a war for which she was unprepared.

Franco-Dominican Snarl Untangled.

SANTO DOMINGO, January 13, via Haitien Cable.—The difficulty between France and Santo Domingo has been satisfactorily arranged, through the French admiral and the officials of the government. The latter will probably issue a proclamation thanking the public for its patriotic feeling, and declaring at the same time that there was no intention to offend France in the patriotic demonstrations, or to molest its representative.

The French warship Suchet left here yesterday.

American Flour Released.

WASHINGTON, January 13.—Secretary-of-State Hay said to-night that the British Government had released the American goods on the Dutch vessel Maria, and that they were now at Delagoa Bay. The goods consist of flour and other provisions, which the English authorities seized as contraband of war, intended for the use of the Transvaal troops. This seizure was made the subject of diplomatic discussion between this government and Great Britain.

Portugal's Weakness as a Kingdom.

LISBON, January 13.—The Republican press is working up an agitation against the monarchy on the basis of England's interference with vessels outside of Delagoa Bay. They declare that England's action is a violation of Portugal's neutrality, and is due to the weakness of the existing regime.

Passed the Edenmoor January 1st.

LONDON, January 13.—The Italian steamer F. S. Ciampa, Captain Marecsa, which arrived at Lisbon yesterday from New York, reports that she passed the steamer Edenmoor on January 1st in latitude 30, longitude 54, water-logged and abandoned.

Boom in Spirits of Turpentine.

SAVANNAH, GA., January 13.—Spirits turpentine was quoted to-day at the Board of Trade at 51 cents This is a new price, not only for this season, but for many years past. The highest price heretofore has been 50 1-2 cents, which was reached a few weeks ago. The tone of the market is firm.

Felix Morris No More.

NEW YORK, January 13.—Felix Morris, the character actor, died to-day at his home, in this city; aged 53 years. He leaves a widow, formerly Florence Wood, of San Francisco, and two young daughters.

Fatal Fire in New York.

NEW YORK, January 13.—Two women and a boy were burned to death in a fire to-night in a two-story frame dwelling on Pine street, Corona, L. I. The cause of the fire is unknown. The damage will amount to but about $1,000.

The Business End.

(Scottish American.)

A kilted Highlander, while passing a farmhouse, got bitten by a young bulldog, the property of the farmer. Maddened with pain, the Celt seized a pitchfork lying conveniently near and transfixed the snarling brute to the earth. Its howls of agony brought the farmer on the scene, and seeing his ugly pet writhing under the prongs, he said, wrathfully—"Why did ye no' tak' the ither end o' the graip to the beast, ye Hielan' scoundrel?" "Why, ta teevil did she no' tak' ta ither end o' herself to me?" was the Celt's angry rejoinder.

CLERK FOR REGISTER

Mr. Barksdale Will Introduce a Bill to Provide One.

MR. RICHARDSON'S CHANCES

He Claims He Will Defeat the Only Candidate Against Him.

SHANDS CASE TO COME UP TUESDAY

Affidavits Will Be Submitted by Mr. Shands—Institutions Asking Increased Appropriations—Bill to Cut Salaries of Circuit Judges.

Senator Barksdale will offer a bill in a few days to rehabilitate the office of Register of the Land Office by making an appropriation to give him a clerk.

Mr. Barksdale was the author of the bill to abolish the office, which was defeated in the House yesterday by a substitute, but reducing the salary of the Register to $1,200—a cut of $300. He explains his apparent inconsistency by saying that he wishes, if the office is to be retained, to have it in a condition in which it will be of full value to the people. It is thought the Senate will refuse to adopt the bill passed by the House yesterday. There is little question that the amendment which Mr. Todd offered to the Senate bill, striking out all but the enacting clause, and inserting a provision to reduce the salary of the Register to $1,200, was out of order, as it changed the entire character of the bill, but the question was not raised. It may be raised in the Senate.

Mr. Richardson expresses absolute confidence of his re-election. Mr. J. I. White, of Pittsylvania, is the only candidate against him.

The House Committee on Roads and Internal Navigation has not reached any conclusions on the Epps separate-car bill, but there is a determination on the part of the members to dispose of the question, and the measure has been made a special and continuing order for to-morrow night at 8 o'clock. In other words, the bill will be considered each night hereafter until disposed of.

The committee met yesterday morning, when Messrs. McAllister and Willard, of the sub-committee, reported their modified bill, giving conductors and station agents police authority, and requiring them to separate white and colored passengers. Mr. Baker, of Chesterfield, offered a substitute bill, which permits the roads to operate either separate or compartment-cars for whites and blacks, but exempts roads from the operations of the law in case of accidents, to sleeping-cars, servants with employers, and trains that do not stop at all stations. It also allows the use of cars by both races when cars are crowded, and in other respects it embodies the features of the Willard-McAllister bill.

Mr. Epps expressed his opposition to both these bills. He insisted that his bill be reported either favorably or adversely, and expressed his willingness to modify it in some particulars, though adhering to the separate-car provision.

It is thought likely that the McAllister-Willard bill will be reported favorably Monday night. Mr. Epps will then offer his bill on the floor of the House as a substitute, and fight for its adoption.

Mr. Musgrave, member of the House from Southampton, will probably offer a bill soon making a large increase in the salaries of judges of circuit courts. He stated last night that if the bill now pending before the House Committee on Courts of Justice increasing the salary of Judge Prentiss," said Mr. Musgrave, "but becomes a law, he will offer a bill of the character mentioned. "I can scarcely find words to express my admiration for the personal and official character of Judge Prentiss," said Mr. Musgrave," but I do not think his salary should be increased from $1,600 to $2,000. The claim that he does more work than other circuit judges cannot be supported. There is no reason why he should have a larger salary than many other judges."

Mr. Hutcheson's pension bill, which he recently introduced in the House, is being favorably considered by the members, and there is a strong likelihood of its being passed. Mr. Hutcheson says his bill would not enlarge the pension roll to any great extent, as it only provides for widows taking the places of husbands who are, or were already on the rolls, and as no widow who was married since 1868 is embraced in the bill, it will only provide for old ladies beyond 50 years of age, who can draw the pension but a few years in the course of nature. In many instances these old ladies encouraged their husbands to go to the front whilst they stayed at home attending the best they could to their husbands' business, and knitting socks all their spare time for the soldiers. He thinks it fitting that they should be remembered by the State.

The case of Senator Shands, of Southampton, will probably be considered finally by the committee of the Democratic caucus of the Senate Tuesday afternoon. Senator Shands will at that time file with the committee several affidavits and two or three letters calculated to strengthen his case.

Guesses at the final verdict are made on every hand. They are all guesses. The committee has not by any direct method indicated the character of its report. Many of the senators are very reticent regarding their own opinions concerning the case, as the committee has not reported. But the man who wagers that the committee will report adversely to the claims of Mr. Shands, and that the Senate caucus will reject the report and admit him to a seat, should feel pretty safe.

The bill for a constitutional convention introduced by Mr. Ayers provides for an election to be held on the fourth Thursday in May, 1900, and in the event the vote is in favor of the convention, further provides for an election of delegates to be held on the fourth Thursday in August, 1900, and the assembling of the convention on the fourth Thursday in November, 1900. The bill further provides for districting the State for members practically upon the basis of the apportionment and districts now existing for the election of members of the House of Delegates. Under this bill the convention will be composed of 100 members. The bill also provides that the delegates to the convention shall receive the same pay and mileage now allowed members of the General Assembly, and that the convention shall be the judge of its own privileges and elections.

The bill introduced by Mr. Flood in the [illegible] provides for an election to be held on the fourth Thursday in May, 1901, and leaves the next General Assembly to provide for the election of delegates to the convention. Under Mr. Flood's bill the convention would not assemble before 1902, but under the bill introduced by Mr. Ayres the convention would assemble this fall.

The employers' liability bill will come up in the House Committee on Courts of Justice at 8 o'clock Wednesday night. A great feature of the discussion will be the speech which Hon. C. V. Meredith, of this city, will make for the bill. Mr. Meredith does not appear as counsel, but simply as a citizen interested in seeing enacted legislation which he thinks is much needed. It was stated by a labor representative last night that probably every union in the State had taken steps to secure the influence of their senators and delegates in securing the passage of the bill. The labor organizations of Richmond will all take similar action.

Captain Frank P. Brent, of the State Board of Education, with his accustomed gallantry, disclaims being entitled to the credit of having prepared the bill which has passed the House requiring that the effects of narcotics and stimulants be taught in the public schools. He says he simply compiled the statute and the regulations of the State Board of Education requiring the teaching of physiology, and the ladies added the clause relating specifically to stimulants and narcotics.

It was stated last night by two old members of the Legislature who took foremost parts in the memorable fight for retrenchment at the last session that every State institution, with possibly one exception, would ask an increased appropriation this year. All of them suffered reductions at the last session. Still, several of them, at least, have suffered little or no inconvenience therefrom, as they have become indebted in varying amounts. It was and is expected by them that the present Legislature will restore the appropriations to what they were formerly.

It is probable that a bill will be offered in the Legislature in a few days providing for cession to the National Government of a strip of territory on the south bank of the Potomac opposite Washington. The object of the cession is to give the General Government a landing-place for the proposed memorial bridge to span the Potomac, and jurisdiction over several square miles of the surrounding country. It is stated that Congress will hardly build the bridge unless such cession is made. It is argued by those who favor it that the improvement of the surrounding country would result in the State receiving an increase in income sufficient to offset the loss of territory. There is little hope of the passage of such a bill.

Speaker Saunders has revised the list of members of the joint committee on the part of the House to investigate the contract between the State and the Davis Boot and Shoe Company. He appointed too many members originally. The delegates on the committee now are Messrs. Pilcher, Folkes, and Gregory, while Messrs. Lupton and Lyle represent the Senate. The committee will begin its work next week.

The House Committee on General Laws had before it yesterday Mr. Graveley's bill to increase the tax on insurance companies from 1 to 2 per cent. on their gross receipts. It was decided though, to ask that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the bill and that it be sent to the Finance Committee, inasmuch, as it seeks to increase the revenues of the State.

The Bland child labor bill and the Dupuy insurance bill will be considered by the Committee on General Laws on the 18th instant. The guarantee bill, fathered by Mr. Bland, will be considered on Tuesday.

Mr. H. M. Darnall, of Roanoke, is at New Ford's Hotel. Mr. Darnall is an aspirant for the position of Insurance Commissioner, an office provided for by a bill now pending in the Legislature. Mr. Darnall is one of the best-known young business-men of Roanoke.

MR. BRYAN ON EXPANSION.

The Filipinos Should Be Given Independence and Protection.

KANSAS CITY, MO., January 13.—William J. Bryan passed through Kansas City to-day for Columbia, Mo. Asked about his Minneapolis interview, in which he was reported as expressing views favorable to certain forms of expansion, Mr. Bryan said:

"I have for one year been discussing imperialism, and I have tried to distinguish between such an extension of the nation's limits as would not change the character of the government and an expansion which converts a homogeneous republic into a heterogeneous empire. When the annexation of any given territory is under consideration the question is, first, whether the people want to come in, and, second, whether the people are capable of sharing in the government and destiny of this nation. I believe that all people are capable of governing themselves, and that the Filipinos should be allowed to govern themselves, but I do not think that all are sufficiently advanced to share with us the government of this nation.

"If the Philippine Islands are annexed the people there must either become citizens or subjects. I am not willing to admit them as citizens, and do not believe that a republic can have subjects. Therefore, I want this nation to give them independence and then protect them from outside interference. The proposed annexation must be considered upon its own merits, but in considering these merits the condition of the people should have more weight than geographical position or commercial advantage."

THE COMMISSIONERS ADJOURN.

Proposed Uniform Classification of Cotton—Round Bale Matter.

NEW ORLEANS, January 13.—The Cotton States Association of Commissioners of Agriculture concluded their work today, and adjourned. The day for holding the next convention at Raleigh will be arranged by Commissioner Patterson.

A resolution was adopted, recommending that the "cotton exchanges, in concert of action, fix and adopt such a uniform classification of cotton as will correspond, if possible, with the cotton classification of Liverpool and the principal cotton markets of Europe."

A resolution by the Arkansas Commissioner, Colonel Hill, favoring the round bale, was defeated, the convention declining to commit itself. Colonel Hill's resolution, however, in so far as it appealed for improved methods in handling cotton, was adopted.

DIXON AND THE "COFFEE COOLER."

They Called to See the President, But Are Disappointed.

WASHINGTON, January 13.—George Dixon, the former feather-weight champion, who was defeated a few nights ago by Terry McGovern, and Bob Armstrong, known as the "Coffee-Cooler," who aspires to honors as heavy-weight fighter of the world, strolled into the White House to-day and requested permission to see the President. They said they simply desired to pay their respects, but the President was busy with a Cabinet officer and did not see them.

Dixon said: "I am going to retire. I have some money, and that, with the benefit to be given me, will absolutely place me in comfortable circumstances."

Armstrong says he will fight any heavy-weight in the world.

BERLIN NEWS NOTES.

Present Status of Our Relations With Germany.

THE EMPEROR'S CANAL BILL.

Conservatives Still in Bitter Opposition to It.

SEIZURE OF GERMAN STEAMERS.

Second Protest to Great Britain With Reference to Bundesrath Case, and Demand for Guarantees Against Recurrence of Such an Incident.

(Special Berlin Cable Letter.)

(Copyright, 1900, the Associated Press.)

BERLIN, January 13.—The correspondent of the Associated Press interviewed the United States Ambassador, Mr. Andrew D. White, to-day, about the present status of the relations between Germany and the United States. Mr. White said:

"The Samoan question between the United States and Germany, the insurance question and sundry minor matters have been happily settled. The main questions which remain are the commercial treaty and the proper inspection of American meats. The former will be mainly considered at Washington. The latter must depend upon the action of the Reichstag. Though the Agrarian party shows bitter hostility to modification of the present arrangement, so oppressive to American interests, it is hoped that the proposal made in President McKinley's message for the appointment of a special commission may be accepted. There is no doubt that the government, apart from the Agrarians, would be heartily glad to see some such fair settlement."

AGRARIANS STILL AGAINST CANAL.

In the Diet the government's moral defeat during the debate on the dismissal of political officials for voting against the canal bill is considered to be of great importance in internal politics, as it shows that the Conservatives still intend to bitterly oppose the Emperor, especially on the new canal bill, which does not please the Agrarians, in spite of the fact that it contains enormous improvement projects for the eastern provinces of Prussia.

The seizures of German steamers by British warships have had the effect of intensifying and generalizing anti-British sentiment in Germany.

FRIENDSHIP FOR AMERICA.

Count von Buelow's speech at the launching of the Hamburg-American Line steamer Deutschland, especially the terms of friendship he devoted to the United State, is much commented on by the German press, and with few exceptions approvingly.

Prussia has now begun appointing female factory inspectors. The budget contains appropriations for their salaries, 2,400 marks ($582) each.

SMOKELESS AND NOISELESS POWDER.

A test occurred to-day, in Vilbel, near Frankfort, in the presence of many officials, of a newly-invented smokeless and noiseless powder. The test, however, turned out rather unsatisfactorily.

The correspondent of the Associated Press learns from an official source that Germany has addressed a second protest to Great Britain, urgently requesting the release of the German steamer Bundesrath, and expressing astonishment at the undue delay. The protest also demands guarantees from Great Britain against a recurrence of such evident "wrongful and excessive application of a combatant's rights against neutrals."

It also requests Great Britain to define the meaning of contraband in a manner acceptable to nations not concerned in the war.

An interpellation about the seizures will be introduced the coming Friday in the Reichstag.

TWO NEWSPAPER MEN SHOT.

Neither Mortally Wounded, It Is Thought—Cause of Attack Unknown.

DENVER, COL., January 13.—Frederick G. Bonfils and H. H. Tammen, proprietors of the Evening Post, were both shot in their office at noon to-day by W. W. Anderson, a prominent local attorney.

It is not believed that either was mortally injured. Both were able to walk to carriages that carried them home.

After the shooting Anderson walked out of the office, unmolested, but later was arrested.

The exact cause of the shooting is not known. Anderson went to the editorial rooms of the Post, and entered the office of Bonfils and Tammen. Polly Pry, a well-known newspaper woman, was also in the room. It is understood that Anderson objected to something that had appeared in the Post, and demanded a retraction, and that Bonfils and Tammen both attempted to put him out of the office. Then he commenced to shoot.

BRYAN'S VISIT TO BOSTON.

Altgeld and Lentz Probably to Be With Nebraskan There.

BOSTON, January 13.—At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Democratic State Committee to-day, for the purpose of making arrangements for the coming of William J. Bryan to Boston, January 30th, it was announced that if assurances made to the committee are carried out John P. Altgeld and Congressman Lentz, of Ohio, will be here with Mr. Bryan.

The Weather.

CLOUDY

WASHINGTON, January 13.—Forecast for Sunday and Monday:

Virginia—Partly cloudy Sunday, with showers in extreme northern portion in afternoon; fair Monday; light, southerly winds, becoming westerly.

North Carolina—Fair and warmer in the interior Sunday; probably fair Monday; light, southerly winds.

THE WEATHER IN RICHMOND YESTERDAY was cloudy and cold. The range of the thermometer was as follows:

6 A. M.	32
9 A. M.	36
12 M.	39
3 P. M.	39
6 P. M.	38
12 Night	33

Mean temperature 36 1-6