

# The Morning Astorian.

VOL. L. ASTORIA, OREGON, TUESDAY DECEMBER 5, 1899 NO. 161

**Now is the Time . . . .**

**T**HE weather will be getting colder soon. Better buy your **STOVES** now at

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Yesterday we received notice from the publishers of the **WEINER EDITION OF THE ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA**, that owing to the enormous increase in the price of paper within the past few weeks, they would shortly withdraw the sale of their Encyclopaedia at the present price. Our contract with the publishers enables us to make the same liberal offer as heretofore. Thirty large volumes of the Encyclopaedia, one guide to Systematic Reading of the Encyclopaedia, One Upright Oak Bookcase and One Large Webster's Encyclopaedia free of charge. All the above will be delivered upon the small payment of

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**SLAUGHTER AT MODDER HILL**

**Most Sustained Fire Ever Known in British Army Annals.**

**ATROCITIES OF THE BOERS**

Ambulance Wagons a Special Mark for Dumdum Bullets—No Quarter Shown on Either Side.

LONDON, Dec. 4.—The Daily Chronicle publishes the following dispatch, dated Wednesday morning, from its correspondent at the Modder river camp:

"The severest engagement our column has yet had and probably the severest of the whole campaign, was fought yesterday on the banks of Modder river. The battle was waged fiercely for nearly 12 hours. The enemy occupied a strongly entrenched position, their front extending five miles along the bank of the stream. They were well supplied with artillery and fought desperately.

"The battle started at daybreak, our guns shelling the Boers' left. The enemy replied with artillery, Hotchkiss and Maxim, and the artillery duel lasted some hours. Then there was a brief lull in the enemy's operations, of which we immediately took advantage. The infantry advanced across the plain towards the river in two brigades. The guards on the right were met by an awful hail of bullets from the enemy's sharpshooters, posted close to the river on the opposite bank. Ours had no cover whatever and were simply mowed down. It seemed impossible to live through the terrible fire, but the brave fellows did not retreat an inch. The Boer fire was horribly accurate, and they must have numbered at least 10,000.

"The Scots guards advanced 600 yards before they were fired on. Then they had to be down to escape the deadly fusillade which lasted without intermission throughout the day. The Highlanders made several attempts to force a passage of the river, but they were exposed to such a murderous, enfilading fire that they had to retire after they had suffered terribly. Subsequently a party of the guards got over and held their own for hours against a vastly superior force.

"The general opinion of the staff is that there has never been such a sustained fire in the annals of the British army as the troops had to face yesterday. Our men fell in dozens while trying to rush the bridge. Among the many heroic deeds, one of the most conspicuous was that of Lieutenant Colington, of the Coldstream guards, and Captain Selthorn, of the Queen's Land contingent, with a dozen members of the Coldstream guards, who jumped into the river and swam nearly to the other side in the face of a steady fire, but were forced to retire and, joining hands, swam back, two of their number being nearly drowned in the retreat.

"The British guns kept up a heavy fire all day and fearful havoc was wrought on the Boer positions, the enemy being forced to fly from their entrenchments. Night put an end to the terrible bloodshed. The infantry brigade was dreadfully cut up. The Boers retreated at night, taking their guns with them, and we are now occupying their positions. The enemy's loss was tremendous."

LONDON, Dec. 4.—(30 a. m.)—There is little further news from the seat of war. Even the latest accounts of the battle at Modder river fail to give an intelligent idea of what happened. There is a feeling of disappointment and continuing anxiety respecting General Lord Methuen. An Associated Press dispatch from Durban says that persons arriving there from Pretoria assert that the Boers are full of confidence and are well prepared for a six-months' siege of Pretoria.

Patriotic demonstrations in the theaters and music halls of London continue unabated. There was a remarkable scene at the Empire last evening, when Mrs. Brown Potter recited a poem called "Ordered to the Front," with soldiers and sailors grouped around her on the stage.

On each side of Mrs. Potter stood a sailor, one carrying the American and the other the British flag. When the curtain fell and rose again to an encore she tied the two flags together amid loud cheering, the entire audience rising and singing "God Save the Queen."

LONDON, Dec. 4.—A correspondent of the Associated Press with General Lord Methuen's column, telegraphing from Modder river last Thursday, says: "Owing to the terrific fire nobody on the plain was out of range. The stretcher bearers found it impossible to go forward and the wounded were compelled, if possible, to crawl out to the lines. No quarter seems to have been given on either side."

The British assert that amid the bullets the ambulance wagons displayed their flags prominently to no advantage. These were repeatedly driven back and compelled to take refuge out of sight. It is alleged that the Boers used dumdums and made special targets of the horses on the plain in the hope of hitting their riders.

While the Argyll Highlanders were pushing across the river they were fired upon from a house and several fell. Thereupon the Highlanders stormed the house and although the Boers hoisted a white flag, no attention was paid to it and all the Boers were shot.

**JOUBERT AT COLENZO.**

LORENZO, Marquez, Nov. 25.—General Joubert has retired from Estocourt and is now blowing up the Colenzo bridge. He brings a large herd of cattle and intends to concentrate his forces around Ladysmith.

**CONSPIRACY AGAINST BRYAN.**

Supreme Court Explores Some of His Campaign Thunders by Knocking Out the Ape Trust.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—In the United States supreme court today the Addyston pipe case was denied. This case involved the constitutionality of the combination of pipe-manufacturers to manufacture pipe, which it was charged, was a trust. The decision was handed down by Justice Peckham, and was adverse to the combination. It was therefore in opposition to the trust.

The opinion concludes: "It is almost needless to add that we do not hold that every private enterprise which may be carried on chiefly or in part by means of interstate shipments is going to be regarded as related to interstate commerce so as to come within the regulating power of congress.

Such enterprises may be of the same nature as the manufacturing of refined sugar; that is, the parties may be engaged as manufacturers of a commodity which they thereafter intend at some time to sell and possibly do sell in another state; but such sale we have already held is an incident to and not the direct result of the manufacture, and so is not the regulation of or an interference with interstate commerce. This principle is not affected by anything herein decided.

The decision draws a clear distinction between combinations affecting interstate commerce and those applying to one state only.

The opinion attracted very great attention, because it is the first opinion on the subject of trusts which has been handed down since the subject of trusts has come into great prominence.

**THE CURRENCY BILL.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The currency bill prepared by the senate finance committee differs somewhat from the house bill but a strong effort will probably be made to agree upon and pass the bill.

**FIRE IN PORTLAND.**

PORTLAND, Dec. 4.—The store of Clossett & Devere, wholesale coffee dealer, was gutted by fire shortly after midnight. The loss was \$28,000, fully insured.

**ALBANY CITY ELECTION.**

ALBANY, Ore., Dec. 4.—The city election today resulted in the election of the entire republican ticket, except two councilmen, by a majority ranging from 21 to 68. Dr. W. H. Davis was elected mayor.

**REENE-OBRIEN FIGHT A DRAW.**

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—The fight between Reene and O'Brien was declared a draw at the end of the 25th round.

**ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES.**

Treasury Statement of Appropriations Required for Government Purposes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The secretary of the treasury today transmitted to the house of representatives estimates of appropriations required for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901.

The aggregate of the appropriations estimated is \$621,081,994, an increase over the estimates for the present fiscal year of \$38,033,616, and an increase over the appropriations for the present fiscal year of \$4,255,024. Following is the total recapitulation by departments of the estimates for next year, cents omitted.

Estimates for 1901: Legislative, \$9,257,757; executive, \$257,140; state department, \$2,135,278; treasury department, \$192,171,442; war department, \$10,712,851; navy department, \$76,469,699; interior department, \$174,660,841; post office department, \$4,581,685; department of agriculture, \$4,308,257; department of labor, \$172,380; department of justice, \$6,279,570. Grand total \$621,081,994.

Appropriations for 1900: Legislative, \$10,423,152; executive, \$215,706; state department, \$2,039,618; treasury department, \$165,891,410; war department, \$10,712,851.

Continued from page three.

**THE OPENING OF CONGRESS**

**Reed Rules Adopted, Speaker Henderson and Officers Elected.**

**ROBERTS' HEARING IS TODAY**

Utah Member Present but Not Sworn in on Objection of Taylor—The Financial Bill Introduced.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Seldom, if ever, have such enormous crowds swarmed around the house to witness the opening scenes of the session as besieged the doors today. By 11 o'clock a brilliant gathering had assembled. The galleries were black with people and through the swinging doors could be seen pushing hundreds who were unable to gain admission. Entrance was obtained by card, for which there was an enormous demand. The ladies and members' galleries were filled with brilliantly gowned women, the wives of members and their friends. The executive gallery was filled with high dignitaries of the government and the diplomatic gallery was resplendent with the representatives of foreign governments. Scattered through the galleries were people prominent in the political, social and financial worlds.

Richardson, of Tennessee, leader of the minority, came upon the floor early and was soon surrounded by a group of democrats. Roberts came into the hall shortly after 11 o'clock but he was not generally recognized, and he retired to the cloakroom almost immediately. At 11:30 the shrill-voiced clerk directed those not entitled to the floor to retire, and the officers and pages rapidly cleared out those already in.

As the minute hand of the clock opposite the speaker's rostrum overtook the hour hand at noon, the gavel of the chief clerk of the last house, Major McDowell, descended with a bang. The members at once arose and the speakers in the galleries bowed their heads. In this stillness the voice of the blind chaplain was elevated and his prayer made the occasion reverent.

After the invocation, the reading clerk began calling the roll. Roberts sat listening intently for his name, and when it was called he responded, "Here" in a loud voice, but he looked nervous and ill at ease. There were no demonstrations during the roll call. When it was concluded, McDowell announced that 322 members had answered to their names, a quorum.

The ceremony of administering the oath of office was then proceeded with until the name of Mr. Roberts was reached. When Mr. Taylor, of Ohio, offered the resolution protesting against his admission.

Taylor spoke calmly and dispassionately. Mr. Roberts stood gazing intently at him and not once moved a muscle throughout the protest.

Representative McKee, of Arkansas, followed with a protest from the democratic side, saying this issue was involving the sacredness of the American home, a sentiment that brought an outburst of applause. Speaker Henderson then addressed Roberts, saying: "Will the gentleman stand aside until the roll call is completed?"

Mr. Roberts assented, with the statement that, in so doing, he waived none of his rights.

"I can assure the gentleman," answered the speaker, "that he waives none of his rights by this course."

Mr. Roberts then resumed his seat and the roll call proceeded. It was agreed by unanimous consent that the consideration of Roberts' case should go over until tomorrow, after the reading of the president's message. The swearing-in of the remaining members was then concluded.

**THE ROBERTS RESOLUTION.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Following is the text of Representative Taylor's resolution for the appointment of a special committee to investigate the Roberts case:

Whereas, it is charged that Brigham H. Roberts, representative elect to the Fifty-sixth congress from the state of Utah, is ineligible to a seat in the house of representatives;

Resolved, That the question of prima facie right of Brigham H. Roberts to be sworn in as a representative be referred to a special committee of nine members of the house, to be appointed by the speaker, and until such committee shall report upon and the house decide such question and right, said Brigham H. Roberts shall not be sworn in or be permitted to occupy a seat in this house; and said committee shall have power to send for papers and papers and examine witnesses on oath in relation to the subject matter of this resolution.

**REED RULES ADOPTED.**

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 4.—Aside from a protest against Roberts taking his seat the only feature out of the

ordinary was the reception of the Reed rules as rules for the present congress. The democrats knew it was futile to more than make a protest against the adoption of these rules, after the republican decision upon this course in caucus, and the debate upon the resolution to adopt them was very brief. They were adopted by a strict party vote.

**ROBERTS BREAKS INTO CONGRESS**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Although Roberts, of Utah, was not sworn in today, he secured a seat by accident. In the seat drawing lottery no provision had been made for Roberts, but when the drawing was completed two others as well as himself had not been provided with seats and the speaker asked and secured permission from the house for those members that did not draw seats to make such selections as they could. Under this authority Roberts got a seat in an obscure portion of the hall.

**PROTEST AGAINST CLARK.**

Charged That the Would-be Montana Senator Paid a High Price For Seat in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—In the course of the proceedings in the senate today, Carter, of Montana, presented a memorial from some members of the Montana legislature against the validity of the pretended election of William A. Clark to the senate.

The memorial recited that Clark did secure and procure votes in this legislative assembly by payment therefor, and by the promise of payment therefor, of large sums of money.

The petition names a number of members of the legislature with sums they are alleged to have received and appropriated to the petition, about \$500,000.

In addition to the sums alleged to have been paid by Senator Clark to members for their votes or influence it is asserted that Senator Clark offered to various persons for their votes or influence sums aggregating \$175,000. Those persons also are named in the petition.

**GREETED WITH BRASS BANDS**

**General Young's Jaded Troopers Meet With Grand Welcome.**

**ARE HAILED AS DELIVERERS**

**Spanish Garrison from Caroline Islands Arrive at Manila—Riadness Shows Gilmore by Natives.**

MANILA, Dec. 4.—The Spanish transport Alva and the gunboats Villa Loos and Qujos with the Spanish garrison and civilians of the Caroline islands arrived here today. The Spanish gunboats will probably be offered for sale to the United States government.

The Spanish secretary, Senor Belpuete, has arrived here with a note from Lieutenant Gilmore to his sister, Mrs. Major Price. He says he has been ill but is now in fairly good health. The Spaniards befriended him and gave him money and clothes.

An Associated Press dispatch from Santa Cruz, in the province of South Iloilo, forwarded by a courier to San Fabian, says that Gen. Young with three troops of the Third cavalry and Major Peyton C. March's battalion of the Thirty-third infantry, arrived at Santa Cruz today.

The Americans left Hamapan, in the province of Union this morning expecting to have a fight at Tagudin in South Iloilo, but they found on arrival there that 900 rebels under General Tino had evacuated 26 hours before, deserting an almost impregnable position. Residents of Tagudin received the Americans outside the town with a brass band. They had been robbed of almost everything by the insurgents and were glad to welcome friendly and protecting troops.

A similar reception awaited Gen. Young at Santa Cruz. Prominent citizens, headed by a band, escorted the Americans.

(Continued on Third Page)

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