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SEMI-

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NUMBER 52

PILCHER EVACUATES

Being Unable to Permanently Occupy Douglas He Retreats From Town.

ESCAPE FROM LADYSMITH

Six Horsemen Make a Successful Dash Out of the Town—Dr. Jameson is Said to be One of Them—Other Late News.

Belmont, Cape Colony, Jan. 3.—(By Associated Press.)—Colonel Pilcher, it is officially announced, being only on a raiding expedition and for military reasons, being unable to occupy Douglas permanently, has evacuated the town, bringing off all the loyalists. He has now returned safely to close proximity to Belmont. When he announced the necessity of evacuating the place, the inhabitants of Douglas declared their lives not worth five minutes' purchase after the troops left. Colonel Pilcher therefore invited them to accompany him to Belmont. Preparations were speedily completed, but the vehicles of the town were totally inadequate to convey the refugees, so the troops gave up their transport wagons to the women and children. The Canadians acted as the escort of the refugees, carried babies for the women, and kept everybody lively by singing as they marched pluckily along in spite of sore feet, occasioned by the heavy sand which made marching extremely trying. The force received Buller's congratulations on the success of the expedition with great satisfaction.

Jameson Escapes.

Hoofd Langer, Ladysmith, Jan. 2.—(By Associated Press.)—Six horsemen made a dash from Ladysmith a few nights ago, and though pursued, escaped. It is believed the party included Colonel Rhodes, brother of Cecil Rhodes, and Dr. Jameson.

British Fire Ineffective.

Boer Camp, Colenso, Jan. 2.—(By Associated Press.)—The British naval guns at Chieveley Camp continue an ineffective, long range fire night and day, to divert the Boer attention from the movements of the troops. Federal scouts yesterday penetrated into the British camp. When returning, the British pickets discovered them and wounded one Boer. Meyer resumes command of the division here. Joubert denies that he ever protested against the use of lyddite and avers that up to the present he has not lost a single man from lyddite.

Boers Shift Position.

Freer Camp, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—Vigorous shelling of the Boer trenches on the plains this morning forced the burghers to shift their position after their horses had stampeded.

Molteno Attacked.

London, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—A dispatch from Cape Town, January 3, reports the situation in Gatacre's district. It says: "Dordrecht is now evacuated by Montmorency, who has occupied Bird's Siding on Indwe Line."

Molteno is being attacked today by the enemy, who more or less surround the police station, but who, according to reports, are being forced back. The reinforcements of mounted infantry and field artillery have been sent by Gatacre. The result is not known.

French Has Reinforcements.

London, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—There is great satisfaction here that De Anr has been able to send to French reinforcements, guns and infantry, of which he appears to be so much in need. Fighting in the hill is incessant. The latest telegrams say that French has almost surrounded Gatacre, but that the Boers are still defending all positions close to the town, preventing the British from capturing it.

Artillery Duel on Today.

London, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—A dispatch from Rensburg this morning says a heavy artillery duel recommenced at daybreak. Further details of the fighting between Gatacre and the Boers at Cyphergat today show that 3,000 Boers, with artillery, attacked the British outpost between Cyphergat and Molteno. Gatacre with the mounted troops and field artillery moved out in front of Sticks' troop and found the Boers strongly posted at Coperberg. They quickly dislodged them, the Boers fleeing in the direction of Stromberg.

Buller Again Checked.

Paris, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—The report is current on the Bourse that Buller has met with another check in his efforts to relieve Ladysmith.

Reports From Pretoria.

Pretoria, Jan. 2.—(By Associated Press.)—Since starting the mint here has coined 140,000 sovereigns. The machinery is now in full swing. Van Sensburg reports from Denderport that the Kaffir stations have been destroyed and the inhabitants are flying. Chief Lynchwe with 3,000 Kaffirs

THE WEATHER.

For Iowa.
Cloudy tonight and Friday; colder west Friday.

attacked the Boer's Langers but were dispersed.

A representative of the Associated Press who has been in Johannesburg for three days says the utmost order prevails there. Looting is exceptional and where it is discovered is heavily punished. The sanitary conditions of the town are perfect and sickness is rare. About 1,200 British subjects are still in the Rand district.

Foreign Office Ignorant.

London, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—The British foreign office knows nothing about the report that the Boer arbitrators had made an award in the Delagoa bay railroad question and, as far as it can learn, the award has not yet been made.

To Help the Boers.

Orange City, Jan. 4.—An entire regiment of soldiers is said to be enroute from the Dutch colony in this (Sioux) county, to join the Boers in the Transvaal. It is seemingly well authenticated and accounts are to be believed, the organizers of the force are not attempting to send the entire body to the seat of war at once, but are content to ship them out three and four at a time by different routes. The recruits were not all gathered in Sioux county, but the money to hire and equip them was all raised in or near Orange City and Sioux Center.

ITS SESSIONS RESUMED.

Roberts Investigating Committee Meets Again Today.

Washington, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—The Roberts investigating committee resumed session today for the purpose of hearing arguments. Chairman Taylor stated that the statement of a witness absent in Utah had been received, but as Roberts declined to admit it in an informal manner the matter would have to be taken up later. Roberts presented a statement tending to show that untrustworthy witnesses had appeared against him.

Schroeder, the head of the Gentile secretary of the board, then opened his argument against Roberts. The argument was largely technical under three heads, viz: Whether Roberts has constitutional qualifications for election to the office; if so, whether he has impaired his status; whether, if he has the statutory qualifications, the house has the power to establish certain other qualifications. He answered all these in favor of the exclusion of Roberts. The committee then took a recess.

PALMER IS CHAIRMAN.

State Board of Railroad Commissioners Reorganized.

Des Moines, Jan. 4.—The state board of railroad commissioners, consisting of E. A. Dawson of Waverly, D. J. Palmer of Washington, and Welcome Mowery of Iowa, reorganized yesterday morning for the year 1900. Colonel D. J. Palmer was unanimously elected chairman to succeed Mr. Dawson. Dwight N. Lewis was re-elected secretary of the board, and C. E. Boylan was re-elected clerk. Yesterday afternoon the board gave an audience to the Cory Coal company and the Crooked Creek railroad. The case is an old one in which the coal company accuses the Crooked Creek railroad of making excessive switching charges. Some time ago the board held that the road had no right to make switching charges against the Cory Coal company, when none were charged of any other person or company. Yesterday the railroad appeared to secure a modification of this decision. The board is also in receipt of a petition from citizens of Waterloo asking for a law to be put in at that point near the junction of the Great Western and Illinois Central roads. A date for hearing this request will be made later.

Received Poisoned Gift.

Muscatele, Jan. 4.—Clay Keese, of this city, has had a narrow escape from death, and the affair is a mystery. He received at the postoffice a package, which contained a bottle of liquor. He had but tasted this when he was seized with a spasm of pain. A physician was summoned and pronounced it a serious case of poisoning. An effort was made to locate the place from which the package was sent, but the postmark was not legible. A similar occurrence took place some time ago makes the affair still more strange.

Reply Unsatisfactory.

London, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—The American hospital ship Maine arrived at Las Palmas, Canary Islands, yesterday, and reports all on board well. The report comes from Berlin that Great Britain's reply to Germany's representations on the subject of the Bundesrath is regarded as unsatisfactory and procrastinating.

Killed by the Cars.

Moulton, Jan. 4.—A man by the name of Morris was struck by the cars and almost instantly killed yesterday at Udell, in this county, on the Rock Island railroad. Mr. Morris was quite old and was crossing the tracks with a load of wood when struck by the engine as it went through freight. One horse was frightfully mangled and the wagon demolished.

Effect of the Earthquake.

San Diego, Cal., Jan. 4.—Reports on the effect of the recent seismic disturbances say that natural gas wells at Yuma are again working and that mud springs in the direction of the Colorado river now spout mud as they formerly did. Near Moosa fissures twenty feet long have been made in the ground.

IT IS SETTLED.

Practically Decided Bowen is to be Speaker.

EATON HAS LOST VOTES

The Identification of His Campaign With That of Mr. Cummins Loses Him Much Support—Town-er is for Bowen.

Des Moines, Jan. 4.—The speakership contest was practically settled yesterday. Dr. Bowen, the Gear candidate for speaker, will certainly be elected. It seems no longer a possibility that the shrewdest politicians of the state, who are among his supporters, can be deceived in the outcome. Mr. Eaton has unquestionably lost votes since it was clearly demonstrated that the purposes of his campaign are identical with those of Mr. Cummins. Nearly all of the Gear men who had given conditional pledges to Mr. Eaton have now lined up with Mr. Bowen. They have done this because they are convinced that to vote for Mr. Eaton is an indirect vote for Mr. Cummins. Those who had made what they considered pledges to Mr. Eaton, have asked to be released from them. There have been a large number of accessions to the Gear-Bowen forces. The Cummins supporters have, up to yesterday, counted all, or nearly all, of the doubtful ones in their column, but they are convinced now, and it is evident to the public, that that sort of bluff will not obtain. Among the many who have alligned themselves in the Bowen column are Dr. Hawk of Jasper county, who was claimed by the Cummins people on account of his living in an adjoining county, and upon a pretext of neighborly relation. He has announced himself positively a supporter of Mr. Bowen. Hon. J. P. Lyman of Koweshick has also announced himself at his home as favorable to Mr. Bowen for speaker. Hon. James Wilson of Keokuk county disposed of the question some time ago, by announcing to the Cummins managers at Des Moines, that his constituents were for Gear, and for that reason he would support Gear and Bowen. This makes the Sixth district solid in the Bowen column. Dr. G. W. Hinkle, representative from Wayne county, expressed surprise on arriving at Des Moines that there had been any discussion in regard to his attitude. He is solid and cordial for Mr. Bowen. Hon. W. D. Blankenship of Taylor county has been claimed by the Cummins supporters. He says that he is an admirer of Mr. Cummins, but does not admire the methods of his supporters. More than that, he is satisfied a large majority of the republicans of his county are for Senator Gear, and that he will vote for Dr. Bowen for speaker. Representative G. M. Putnam of Pottawattamie county has been claimed by the Cummins people. Mr. Putnam said yesterday: "I am for Bowen and all that Bowen stands for."

FELL FROM ENGINE.

Engineer D. Wright, of North Webster, Loses His Life.

Des Moines, Jan. 4.—D. Wright, an engineer on one of the fast trains of the Northwestern, fell from his engine at about noon yesterday, and his life was crushed out instantly. At the time of the accident the unfortunate man was in the gangway. At a sudden curve in the road the engine awayed and the man was pitched headlong. The train was stopped as soon as possible and backed to the scene of the accident. The body was put in a baggage car and taken to the nearest station. This is the second of a similar accident on the Northwestern road within three days. Engineer E. J. Fiske fell from his engine near Mechanicsville a short time ago and died Tuesday. The death of Wright occurred near Bertram on the main line of the Northwestern.

MISSIONARY MURDERED.

Rev. Brooks Captured and Killed by a Seditious Party.

Pekin, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—Rev. Brooks, of the Church Missionary society, at Ping Yin, province of Shan Tung, was captured and murdered December 3, by members of a seditious society, who lately destroyed many villages, killing the native Christians. The governor has dispatched cavalry to the scene.

ELDON NEWS.

Items of Interest From the Busy Railroad Town.

Eldon, Jan. 4.—H. R. Baker went to Fairfield yesterday in the interests of the Big Four fair.
Jim Bradley, of Centerville, was in town yesterday.
Miss Esther West returned from Ottumwa Tuesday evening.
Frank Slone left the first of the week for St. Louis from where he will go to Florida in hopes of benefiting his health.
Last evening Mar Isbell and Florence Baker returned to Davenport to again resume their studies at the Immaculate Conception school.
Tuesday evening a business meeting was held at the Congregational church. The following officers were elected: H. C. Mason, treasurer; C. H. Hilles, clerk; Geo. Friend, John Hall and Will Irwin, trustees; and H. Furtney, J. Houghland and H. C. Mason, finance committee.
Mary Wise returned the first of the week from Ottumwa. Bertha and Minnie Amelang accompanied her.
The fortnightly club will entertain their husbands at the home of Mrs. G. T. Sewall tonight.
Miss Maude Moore has returned from Ottumwa.
Misses Josie Cross and Lettie Hellyer returned from Mt. Zion Tuesday evening.

Reaffirm Cowardice Charge.

Villisca, Jan. 4.—The Villisca papers contain a statement on the Burton matter, giving the boys' side of the case. In this statement, which occupies nearly two columns, the boys go into details as to the late captain's record. It shows that after the battle of Calumet, April 25, 1899, charges were drawn up and signed by every member of the company that could be reached. These charges contained a number of items, one in particular alleging cowardice. Burton did not deny the charges and the company asked that they be investigated. Burton asked that the charges be withdrawn and he would resign and stay away from the company pending the acceptance of his resignation. Through the persuasion of Lieutenant Colonel Miller and other officers the company finally agreed to this proposition. Burton left the company and went to Manila, and so far as the records show, remained away for nearly two months, during which time most of the fighting in which the company engaged occurred.

Many Killed by Earthquakes.

Tiflis, Russian Transcaucasia, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—Altogether thirteen villages in the Achalkalak district have experienced earthquake shocks. Six of these were completely destroyed and 800 dead bodies have already been recovered.

Palmer Commits Suicide.

Creston, Jan. 4.—Robert R. Palmer, a well known grain and coal dealer, committed suicide in his office by putting a bullet through his right temple. It is believed that he grew despondent over business reverses. He leaves a widow and five children. His life was well insured. Of late he had talked much about religious matters, something that did not often engross his attention.

Killed in a Runaway.

Exira, Jan. 4.—While Jens P. Jensen, a Danish gentleman, and his wife were driving home from Bravon his team took fright and ran away, throwing him out and so injuring him that he died Sunday. His wife is now in a very precarious condition.

BUTTON FACTORY PROBABLE.

Ottumwa Business Men Considering Proposition of a Manufacturer.

A number of business men of the city are interesting themselves in the matter of bringing a button factory to Ottumwa, and it is said have been made a proposition which they are considering. A meeting will probably be held some time next week, at which time the question will be settled one way or the other.

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IN CONGRESS

Beveridge Introduces a Philippine Resolution.

WORD FROM PRESIDENT

It Relates to Conduct of the Late War—A Form of Government for Hawaii—Aldrich Speaks on the Financial Bill.

Washington, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—Beveridge of Indiana presented the following resolution: "That the Philippine Islands are territory belonging to the United States; that it is the intention of the United States to retain them as such, and establish and maintain such governmental control throughout the archipelago as the situation may demand."

Beveridge will speak when it comes up Tuesday next.

The committee on foreign relations reported a form of government for Hawaii. A message was received from the president, transmitting the testimony taken by the commission appointed to investigate the conduct of the war by the war department.

Allen's resolution asking information as to the treasury's relations with the National City and Hanover National banks, was modified and passed.

Pettigrew called up the bill for the settlement of the accounts of the national treasury with the public land states under the law granting 5 per cent of the proceeds of the sales of public lands to the states, and extending it to cover the Indian and military reservation lands. Pettigrew said it involved the payment of about twelve millions by the government. Beveridge declared the measure would involve the wasting of public money and be unfair to the states with no reservations. His motion to make it inapplicable to the reservations, carried. Aldrich, in charge of the senate financial bill, then called up that measure and addressed the senate in explanation of its provisions.

Aldrich on Financial Bill.

"The first section contains a clear and definite declaration that the gold dollar is and shall continue to be the standard unit of value; a new, more explicit pledge on the part of the United States that all forms of money it may issue or coin shall be at all times maintained at an equality of value with the gold coin of the adopted standard, and a specific provision that United States notes and treasury notes shall, upon presentation at the treasury, be redeemed in the standard gold coin. These declarations embody in a new and more positive terms the law and practice in this respect as interpreted and carried out in the administration of the treasury department since the resumption of the specie payments. In consideration of this section I do not overlook the fact that before this discussion is over we will surely be confronted with the charge by the senators on the other side of the chamber that by our reaffirmation of the gold standard we deliberately abandoned the position of the republican party and thereby heretofore taken in favor of international bimetalism. The charge is not in accordance with facts. The bill now before the senate contains no disavowal of the position heretofore taken upon the question of international bimetalism and places no obstacles in the way of its accomplishment in the future. It is possible to assure permanence and relative value to gold and silver coins with the free coinage of both metals at a fixed ratio; this permanence can only be secured by concurrent action of all the leading commercial nations." Aldrich said the democrats, while masquerading as friends of bimetalism, have for the past four years been engaged in a crusade in behalf of the single standard of silver in the serious attempt to place money and business in the country on a silver basis.

Box is Delivered.

Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—A box said to contain \$4,500 to be passed in the alleged bribery transaction between Colonel Whalen and Senator Harrell, was delivered to the grand jury today. What the box actually contains is known only to the grand jury.

Hear the Message.

Des Moines, Jan. 4.—Members of the state board of control, the secretary of state, state treasurer and other state officers gathered in the office of Governor Shaw yesterday morning and listened to the reading of the latter's biennial message to the legislature, which will go to the printers this week sometime.

Suicide at Davenport.

Davenport, Jan. 4.—(Special.)—Fred Schultz, aged 19, became despondent and shot himself early this morning. He died later. This is the second suicide this week.

Fatal Runaway Accident.

Burlington, Jan. 4.—Miss Ida Coyne, who lived west of Burlington, was instantly killed in a runaway last evening.

Notes based on 2 per cent United States bonds to one-half of one per cent.

Bingham of Pennsylvania, introduced the following joint resolution: "That the thanks of congress be hereby tendered to Rear Admiral Wm. T. Sampson and Commodore Winfield Scott Schley, and the officers and men under them for the destruction of the Spanish fleet at Santiago."

The senate, after going into executive session, adjourned till Monday.

In the House.

Washington, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—The house committee on ways and means reported the resolution presented yesterday for full information relative to the department's relations with the National City and Hanover National banks of New York with amendments extending the scope of the inquiry.

Levy, democrat, of New York, offered a further amendment asking the secretary's reason for delaying the deposits in the national bank until the panic occurred. The speaker ruled the amendments extending the scope of the inquiry passed as reported. Adjournment till Monday.

Quarles of Virginia introduced the following house resolution: "That we hereby extend to our two sister republics in Africa, the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, our deepest sympathy in the noble, brave and patriotic struggle they are making to preserve their governments from destruction by the hands of a monarchy."

TEN YEARS' BANISHMENT

Such the Sentence Pronounced Upon the French Conspirators.

Paris, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—The senate, as a high court, today condemned Buffet and Deroulade to ten years' banishment.

Guerin was sentenced to ten years' confinement in a fortified place. Saluces was sentenced to ten years' banishment.

Went After a Wife.

New York, Jan. 3.—Several months ago Oron Swart, a merchant of Marquetteville, N. Y., received a letter from William Hysham, of Red Rock, Iowa, a stranger to him, asking him to please recommend a nice woman who would like to marry a solid man. Mr. Swart decided that Miss Palmatier, 35 years old, who owns a farm near town, would be just the person. Hysham wrote that he owned a big ranch, and forwarded credentials to show that he is a man of substance and good reputation.

Miss Palmatier was consulted. She was not anxious to marry unless she could better her condition, but agreed to allow her name to be sent out west. The result was a correspondence between Miss Palmatier and the Iowa man, and a few days ago Mr. Hysham arrived in town and went to the Palmatier farm. He has preserved silence about his wooing, but it is freely declared here that the Iowa man will surely carry the spinster away to his farm.

Investigating Mine Horror.

Uniontown, Pa., Jan. 4.—The first day's inquiry by the coroner into the Brazzelli mine horror in which nineteen lives were lost, yesterday developed surprising testimony and substantiated the fact that there had been zinc in explosive quantities in the mine at various times before the explosion. It was also shown that at various times the fire boss found several feet of zinc covering a large area in rooms close to the main passageway and the inspectors declared this was sufficient to cause a disastrous explosion. It was shown the men were allowed to work with the mine in this condition. The examination will last all week.

Taken to District Court.

Fort Dodge, Jan. 4.—Service has been made and the papers have been filed by Henry Cox, the democratic candidate for the office of county treasurer at the last election, in an appeal to the district court for a decision on the ballots in the recent election. Cox and A. J. Lindquist, the republican candidate for the office, were tied when the returns were handed in at the recent general election. A comparison by the board of supervisors of the returns gave Lindquist the office by thirteen votes. Cox asked for a recount as provided by law, and a board of three was appointed to recount the votes. Lindquist was again given the office, this time by thirty-one votes. Cox now seeks to have a recount under the instructions of the district judge.

Box for Damages.

Clinton, Jan. 4.—Fred Brant, through his attorney, T. W. Hall, has filed a suit in district court against the Chicago and Northwestern railroad company for damages for personal injuries to the amount of \$1,990. In his petition he alleges he was run down by a Northwestern switch engine in this city on the evening of November 9 last. He states that three ribs were broken and other injuries sustained, which will be permanent. The company is charged with carelessness in several respects.

Death of Mrs. Elizabeth Warren.

A death of Elizabeth Warren occurred at her home in Chillicothe this morning at 12:30 o'clock. Funeral services will be conducted tomorrow afternoon at 1:30 o'clock p. m. Burlington No. 3 which leaves this city at 8:30 in the morning will stop at Chillicothe tomorrow for the accommodation of the Ottumwa friends of the deceased who wish to attend the funeral.

Democrats Elected.

Burlington, Jan. 4.—In the special city election yesterday to fill vacancies Shier, for alderman-at-large, and Herman, for assessor, both democrats, were elected by small majorities.

STEAMER DETAINED

The German Ship General is Halted by British Authorities at Aden.

TROOPS SEARCH VESSEL

Although Steamer's Manifest Shows That She Has No War Material on Board She is Made to Discharge Her Cargo.

Berlin, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—The Imperial mail steamer General has been detained at Aden and occupied by the British troops with the object of searching her cargo. The General is owned by the German East African line, the owners of the Bundesrath recently captured by the British off Delagoa Bay.

No War Material.

Hamburg, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—Although the manifests of the steamer General, seized at Aden, show no war material on board, she was compelled to discharge her cargo.

BANKRUPTCY LAW

Congressman Dooliver and Lacey Favor Its Repeal.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Representative Dooliver yesterday introduced a bill to repeal the bankruptcy bill. Dooliver says that the act has proved a most dangerous measure to the commercial interests of the country ever placed on the statute books. Lacey, who sat at his side when he talked to the Capital correspondent said: "I favor that bill. Two of the biggest failures ever known in my district are directly traceable to the bankruptcy law."

Lacey yesterday introduced a bill to amend the interstate commerce law so as to prevent the shipment of goods from one state to another when that goods have been killed in violation of law.

OPEN DOOR IS ASSURED

Italy Gives Her Consent to Such an Arrangement.

Washington, Jan. 4.—(By Associated Press.)—Italy has returned a favorable response to the note of the state department respecting the open door in China. Italy is the last of the great powers to be heard from. This makes the assent of the others effective.

INSTALLED OFFICERS.

Grand Master Workman of the A. O. U. W. Present.

Ottumwa lodge No. 227 A. O. U. W. Wapello lodge No. 63 and Ottumwa lodge No. 19, I. O. O. F., installed officers last evening. At the ceremonies of the former Will M. Narvis, of Muscatine, grand master Workman, presided. The following were the officers installed: