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QUEEN VICTORIA ILL.

General Belief Prevails That Great Britain's Queen Has But a Few Hours to Live.

Queen Victoria lies at Osborne House, Speechless, Stricken With Paralysis. No Definite News, Except Vague Official Bulletins, to be Had From the Sick Room—She is Not Expected to Live Until Tomorrow—Arrival of the Prince of Wales Who Assumes the Duties of Regent—Other Members of the Royal Family Including Emperor of Germany Hastening to Her Bed-Side.

Osborne, Isle of Wight, January 19.—6 p. m.—The following official bulletin has just been issued:

"The queen's strength has been fairly maintained throughout the day and there are indications of a slight improvement in the symptoms this evening."

"JAMES REID,
"R. DOUGLAS POWELL."

Crowes, Isle of Wight, January 19.—There was no change in her majesty's condition at 5 p. m.

According to local understanding and report, the prince of Wales comes to Osborne with the object of practically assuming the regency. He will take over the powers of signing state documents and is expected to return to London, the center of state business, until his return here is necessitated by the possible course of events.

Berlin, January 19.—Emperor William and the duke of Connaught, with their suites, left Berlin by special train for England at 6 o'clock this evening, by way of Flushing.

London, January 19.—6 p. m.—The British second class-cruiser Minerva, having a speed of over twenty knots, leaves Portsmouth at 9 o'clock tonight to intercept the vessel bringing Emperor William and the duke of Connaught from Flushing and take them to Osborne.

An urgent telegram has been sent to the duke of Cambridge, recalling him to Paris.

Cowes, Isle of Wight, January 19.—Midnight.—The queen of England lies at death's door. She was stricken with paralysis tonight. Reuters Telegraph Company understands that the prince of Wales has received authority to act in her majesty's stead, and thus has been created a practical, though not constitutional, regent.

Cowes.—Midnight.—A local rumor, purveyed by Osborne house employees, declares that the queen cannot live until Monday, but this receives no official confirmation.

Gathered at her bedside are the prince and princess of Wales, Princess Louise and other members of the royal family, while Mr. Ritchie, the secretary of state for home affairs, officially represents the cabinet. Lord Salisbury is in constant telephonic communication with Osborne house, and it was rumored that he had arrived at Osborne, but this does not appear to be true.

The arrival of Emperor William and other members of the royal family is anxiously awaited.

For three days the queen has been kept strictly to herself. The last time she drove out in Cowes the rain beat down heavily upon her.

Even the natives, who have grown to look upon her majesty as an ordinary body, have noticed that she looked more delicate and shrunken than ever—a mere shadow of her former self—yet with feminine persistence, the queen forbade those around her to say that she was ill. The Queen Victoria tradition and etiquette decree that she is never ill; and so, with dogged determination she fought off the ravages that worry over the Boer war, the deaths in her own family and her increasing years have brought upon her; but against the ruthless hand of nature, even the imperial resolve of the ruler of the great empire proved futile, and with a pitiful realization of the inevitable, she shut herself off from her entourage. For two nights she dined alone and never stirred from the apartments she occupied at Osborne.

Humbly, for this woman rules her court with no uncertain hand, her court officials implored her to seek medical advice. These messages she steadfastly ignored, and, though tonight her condition is admitted to be most serious, there are only in attendance Drs. Powell and Reid. Doubtless the prince of Wales will tomorrow secure medical aid.

Her majesty lies helpless and almost speechless in her bed in Osborne house surrounded by every comfort. Fruits,

flowers, ice and all the accessories of modern medicine are at hand.

Osborne house is buried amidst a gloomy park of firs. It is brightly lit outside. The wind comes up from the channel and surges through the trees like a death dirge. A mile away stands the lodge. Beyond its portals none but the household can pass. On them, without the sovereign's knowledge are posted bulletins announcing her condition.

Beyond the bulletins, nothing official is obtainable, but not a soul connected in any way with Osborne house seems to believe that her majesty can survive this attack. In fact, locally, the announcement of her death is awaited with something approaching equanimity. Never in the memory of her subjects has the queen been ill before and now that at her advanced age she has been stricken, it seems to those who have lived around her that it is impossible for her to recover. The villagers who have seen her girlhood, was their heads tonight and say it is a said day for England.

The official bulletins may safely be described as optimistic. Their vagueness in describing the queen's ailment may be accented as merely evasive of the facts. The information obtained by the Reuters Telegraph Company to the effect that it is paralysis from which the queen is suffering is based upon the highest possible authority. By Monday it is likely that the truth will be announced to the nation. The extreme weakness of her majesty and loss of all her faculties appear to be at present the chief cause for anxiety. Stimulants are being freely administered.

In the opinion of those best qualified to judge, the queen's present serious condition was precipitated by intense worry over the losses and hardships suffered by the British troops in South Africa. Frequently she has remarked to court attachés that another war would kill her.

In this connection Reuters Telegram Company learns that she was most seriously ill while last at Balmoral in the autumn. No word of this became public, but it appears that she was then almost dying though that rigorous etiquette which she imposes alike upon her family and attendants prevented her condition being even spoken of as dangerous.

The present stroke is a sequel to that which occurred at Balmoral. If she survives it she will be not only the longest lived monarch in England's history, but also the possessor of the most marvelous constitution with which a woman was ever endowed. Locally it is taken to be a sad coincidence that Sunday is the anniversary of the death of Prince Henry of Battenburg, for whom special memorial services are always held.

The arrival of the prince of Wales at about 6 o'clock this afternoon, accompanied by Home Secretary Ritchie and the arrival of the princess of Wales at 10 o'clock tonight occasioned no scenes of any kind. They embarked upon the royal yacht Alberta and went up the little river separating Cowes from Osborne. Entering royal carriages they were driven, through the half gale which prevailed, straight to the royal residence.

Mr. Ritchie, it is understood, was specially summoned to supervise the details of handing over to the prince of Wales the necessary authority to transact state business.

Fearful sorrow, not unmixed with expectation, is written broad upon every face. That official secrecy which stops all callers at the lodge gates does not serve to mitigate the general dread that pervades these islands. Located almost as Key West is to the United States, they hold in their bosom the most precious and revered personality that a nation ever worshipped, and it is the general impression that forty-eight hours will bring the crisis of that feeble life upon which many international threads hang.

The country women paused in their Saturday night shopping tours to pray that the hand of death might be stayed from falling on the big house over the Medinas river, but their prayer find little echo in hope, for those who have seen the queen down there say she was only a shadow of death. Yet the policeman on duty at the lodge gates respectfully refers all callers to the last bulletin and says mechanically "Slight improvement."

The dread word "paralysis" is carefully kept from the nation. Cowes, Isle of Wight, January 20, 2:10 a. m.—The queen's condition is unchanged. The prince of Wales will go to Lon-

ALL ENGLAND IN SUSPENSE

MOMENTARILY EXPECTING TO HEAR OF THE QUEEN'S DEATH

The News Treated Conservatively by Press and People—They Hesitate to Express Their Worst Fears—Anxiety Seen on Every Face—The News of Her Condition Not a Surprise to the People—Family Sorrows the Cause of Her State of Health.

London, January 19.—Probably nowhere else in the world has Queen Victoria's prostration been so conservatively treated in the newspapers as here, where it is of the most vital importance.

The papers, like her subjects, hesitate to speak plainly of the fears oppressing them regarding the queen. The headlines of most of the afternoon papers today were confined to non-committal words in big type, like "Her Majesty's Condition," but the news vendors were doing a tremendous business with every edition.

It was a gloomy day for London. The anxiety on every face, from the East End workmen to the frequenters of the St. James Club, comported with the dreary, drizzling rain. London's comment on yesterday's official statement was that it might mean little or much.

The bulletin of today forced the conviction on the public mind that it meant much.

The officials told the newspaper correspondents that they hoped for the best, but their manner showed they feared the worst. Withal, the intelligence did not surprise the people. The unanimous comment was that they feared it.

While the queen was wonderfully strong physically, for her age, the cares and sorrows, not only of the war, but arising from the death of her grandson in South Africa and of her favorite lady-in-waiting, the Dowager Lady Churchill, at Christmas, affected her vitality and the empire awaits the news from Osborne with the keenest suspense in the memory of the queen's subjects.

SENATOR DAVIS' SUCCESSOR

After a Hard Fight Minnesota Republicans Nominate M. E. Clapp.

St. Paul, Minn., January 19.—Former Attorney General Moses E. Clapp, of St. Paul, was this afternoon chosen as the republican nominee for the place in the United States senate made vacant by the death of Cushman K. Davis, after one of the hardest contests in the history of the state. Mr. Clapp was elected attorney general of the state in 1886, 1888 and 1890 and has been prominent in politics. He was a candidate for the republican nomination for governor in 1895, but was defeated by Governor Clough. He enjoys a large law practice. He is an orator of ability and is familiarly known as the "Black Eagle of Minnesota."

Such little pills as DeWitt's Little Early Risers are very easily taken, and they are wonderfully effective in cleansing the liver and bowels. R. R. Bellamy.

don this morning, where, with the duke of York, he will meet Emperor William. Whether the emperor will proceed to Osborne depends upon the result of this interview.

London, January 20, 4 a. m.—The official bulletin regarding the queen posted at the Mansion house and Marlborough house Saturday were read with evident anxiety and eagerly discussed by the large crowds constantly surrounding them until a late hour of the night.

At the clubs the last bulletin saying there was a "slight improvement," was received with some incredulity, as more than one private telegram was shown expressing the most unfavorable view of the progress of her majesty's illness.

Among the ominous items of news was the statement that the Right Rev. Randall Thomas Davidson, D. D., bishop of Winchester, had been summoned and had reached Osborne late last night.

Some of the newspapers issued editions as late as 11 o'clock and these were eagerly bought. They contained, however, nothing to satisfy the pained interest with which they were perused. The duke of York was at York house late in the evening, when it was announced that he was not going to Osborne until today.

OUR GOVERNMENT DEFIED

VENEZUELA PAYS NO ATTENTION TO ITS FORMAL PROTESTS

The Situation Declared to be Serious and All Foreigners in That Country in Great Danger Unless Our Government Takes an Aggressive Position for the Protection of American Citizens and Interests—Cause of Trouble.

Willmstad, Island of Curacao, Dutch West Indies, January 19.—via Haytian cable.—The United States auxiliary cruiser Scorpion, Lieutenant Commander Sargent commanding, his just arrived here on her way to Guaymas, Venezuela, the nearest port to the scene of the trouble between the rival asphalt companies. She recently left Laguayra (the port of Caracas) and brings the latest news of the Venezuelan trouble. The situation is described as being serious. It is said that the emphatic protests of the government at Washington have been defied and bloodshed at the lake of the Bermuda Asphalt Company was feared. The most hot-headed of the foreigners in Venezuela go so far as to say that if the Washington authorities do not take steps to protect American citizens now all foreigners may as well leave the country. The officers of the Scorpion are quoted as saying that the diplomatic corps at Caracas is unanimous on this point, as are all the foreigners. They admit, however, that the United States Minister at Caracas, Mr. Francis B. Loomis, is working vigorously in the efforts to arrange matters.

The more recent developments in the trouble in Venezuela were the seizures by the authorities at Ciudad Bolivar, (an important commercial town of Venezuela and capital of the state of Bolivar, situated on the right bank of the Orinoco, thirty-seven miles by water from the sea) of two steamers belonging to the Orinoco Company. This concern is an English corporation, but 90 per cent. of the capital is American. The manager of the company is Mr. Morgan, of New York. The Orinoco Company has a large fleet of steamers used for navigating the Orinoco river. Two of these steamers were seized by the Venezuelan authorities during the last revolution and it is said they were ruined.

The concession of the Orinoco Company was recently annulled on the ground that it was illegal and the opinion prevails that it will be driven from business and all the money invested by the shareholders will be lost unless the British or American government intervenes.

Mr. Loomis is using his good offices to save the two steamers recently seized. The United States legation at Caracas, however, is overwhelmed with work and the company's business has been stopped. It is asserted that the company has unpaid claims against the government for \$500,000.

It is further asserted that hundreds of legitimately conducted foreign enterprises have been ruined in Latin America during the last thirty years, by looting officials and revolutions and it is alleged that an attempt is now being made to "squeeze" the Bermudez Asphalt Company for about \$500,000, and, according to the reports which reached here today, if the company does not pay this amount to the Venezuelan officials, its property, said to be worth several million dollars, will be taken, unless the United States government intervenes.

If the most recent Venezuelan reports are to be believed the anti-government disturbances there are confined to small revolutionary movements in the eastern part of Venezuela.

NAVAL APPROPRIATION BILL

The Largest Amount Ever Carried by a Naval Bill.

Washington, January 19.—The naval appropriation bill was reported to the house today, with an elaborate statement of its provisions by Chairman Foss, of the naval committee. The bill carries \$77,616,635, the largest ever reported to the house from the committee on naval affairs. This is \$11,865,718 above the bill of last year and \$10,229,396 below the estimates submitted by the navy department. The bill provides that not more than one battleship or armored cruiser shall be built in one yard or by one party and the usual provision is made that at least and not more than two of the battleships and armored cruisers shall be built on the Pacific coast.

The following places receive appropriations for naval work: Norfolk \$594,269; Key West \$144,000; Pensacola \$41,500; Algiers \$230,000; Dry Tortugas \$100,000.

YESTERDAY IN CONGRESS

Senate Devotes the Day to Eulogies on the Late Senator Gear—The House at Work on the Postal Law Codification

Washington, January 19.—Under a special order the senate devoted the greater part of its session today to eul-

IN THE LEGISLATURE.

Little Business Transacted—Both Houses Adjourn in Respect to Memory of Gen. R. E. Lee.

Legis upon the late Senator John H. Gear, of Iowa, who died in this city last July.

A concurrent resolution offered a few days ago by Senator Lindsay, of Kentucky, providing for the celebration on the 4th of February next of the 100th anniversary of the assumption of the chief justiceship of the United States by John Marshall was called up and passed.

The session of the house today was devoted chiefly to the postal codification bill which was about half completed. The discussion turned mainly on the proposition to compel star route contracts to be let to persons living contiguous to the route, but the proposition was defeated after extended debate.

Among the bills passed was, that granting fifteen days annual leave to employees of navy yards, arsenals, etc.

A NUN'S ELOPEMENT.

She Marries a Former Patient at the Hospital Where She Was a Nurse

Lancaster, Pa., January 19.—A sensation was caused today by the elopement and subsequent marriage at Camden, N. J., of Rowland D. Moore, a prominent resident of this city, and Miss Ellen Dugar, of Shamokin, Pa., who was a nurse known as Sister M. Leonica at St. Joseph's hospital, which is conducted by the sisters of St. Francis. Miss Dugar has been a nun for seven years. A year and a half ago she came to St. Joseph as a nurse and she and Moore fell in love while the latter was a patient in her care. Miss Dugar quietly left the hospital last evening, went to the home of a friend and early this morning left for Camden. Mr. Moore is 38 years old and Miss Dugar ten years his junior.

POSTOFFICE CLERKS DISMISSED

For Conspiracy as to Dead Letter Office Auction Sales.

Washington, January 19.—Several clerks in the dead letter office of the postoffice department have been dismissed on charges of having bought packages at the dead letter sale, knowing in advance their contents and falsely representing their character in the catalogue. The scheme was unearthed by the postmaster general in an investigation carried on for a month. In order to avert suspicion by the presence of local detectives in the office during the sale, December 17th last inspectors from New York, Boston and Maryland carried on the investigation and located the plot in the property division of the dead letter office.

TO BE NO MORE HAZING.

Resolutions Adopted by the Cadets of West Point.

West Point, January 19.—The congressional investigation of the West Point military academy has borne fruit rather unexpectedly. Tonight when the congressmen were hurrying their inquiries to a termination, the cadets of all four classes held a meeting in Grant hall and unanimously decided to abandon exercising and hazing of every form, as well as the practice of calling out fourth class men. This is exactly what General Dick and the other members of the congressional committee have been trying to impress on the cadets who have testified before them as the only course open to them if they desired to see the fair name of the United States military academy unspotted and above reproach.

The communication was addressed to Superintendent A. L. Mills, who only got back from Washington this morning and he quickly brought it to General Dick.

The congressional committee adjourns to meet in Washington.

England to Return the Treaty.

Washington, January 19.—The expectation here is that the British government will return the amended Hay-Pauncefote treaty with amendments of its own, and it is not expected that these British amendments will be acceptable to the United States senate. Whether or not this expectation is based on advice from Mr. Choate or communications from Lord Pauncefote, it is not possible to determine.

This season there is a large death rate among children from croup and lung troubles. Prompt action will save the little ones from these terrible diseases. We know of nothing so certain to give instant relief as One Minute Cough Cure. It can also be relied upon in grippe and all throat and lung troubles of adults. Pleasant to take. R. R. Bellamy.

A Petition for a State Reformatory.

A Bill Introduced Regulating the Holding of Primary Elections—Senate Passes Local Bills—A Conference Ordered on the Bill Amending the Law as to Trusts and Mortgages. Resolution Asking an Address From Dr. Curry Adopted—Senator Gudgeon's Reason for Opposing the Resolution. To Hold a Joint Session to Elect a State Librarian.

SENATE.

(Special to The Messenger.) Raleigh, N. C., January 19.—The senate met at 11 o'clock.

A petition was presented from Bishop Rhonthaler and ministers of Salem for a state reformatory.

Bills were introduced as follows: By Senator Foushee, to regulate the holding of primary elections; by Senator McIntyre, joint resolution inviting Dr. J. C. M. Curry to address the general assembly; by Senator Miller, of Pamlico, to repeal chapter 50, public laws of 1897; by Senator James, to amend section 3737 of the code, regarding the fees of solicitors; by Senator Ward, to pay J. S. Mann the balance of salary due him as shell fish commissioner.

Senator McAllister was added to the committee on education; Senator Alexander to that on election law; Senator Miller of Caldwell, to that on deaf, dumb and blind institution.

The senate bill for relief of the clerk of the court of Robeson passed its third reading.

The senate bill to allow the commissioners of Wilson to levy a special tax passed its third reading. (Provides for the issuing of \$15,000 in bonds.)

The senate resolution inviting J. C. M. Curry to address the legislature passed its readings. (Senator Gudgeon voted no, saying he understood Mr. Curry used his influence in lobbying in Washington to unseat Hon. W. T. Crawford, who had been elected by the people, and seating Richmond Pearson, who had not been elected, therefore he would not vote to ask him to address this assembly.)

The senate bill to amend the code relating to trustees and mortgages came back from the house with an amendment. The senate failed to concur in the house amendment and Senators Henderson and Foushee were appointed a conference committee.

The senate bill to amend chapter 160, acts of 1897, regarding trial of civil actions passed its readings.

Senator Foushee moved that the Brown anti-cigarette bill be printed, and the senate so ordered.

Senator Morton introduced a resolution to adjourn until 12 o'clock Monday in honor of the memory of Robert E. Lee. The resolution was amended to read 11 o'clock and adopted.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Speaker Moore convened the house at 10 o'clock.

Representative Ardrey, of Maconburg, presented his credentials, and the oath was administered to him.

The introduction of bills included: By Mr. Whitaker, of Forsyth, to terminate the claims against the State by Stewart Bros.; by Mr. Thompson, to protect deer in Onslow; also to amend the charter of the Onslow Navigation Company; by Mr. Mauney, to erect a monument to Junaluska, the Indian chief, for services in war of 1812; by Mr. McNeill, to prohibit manufacture and sale of liquor near Baptist churches in Brunswick county; and to allow the commissioners of Brunswick to levy a special tax; by Mr. Nash, to relieve T. P. Wilcox, ex-sheriff of Nash county.

Mr. Connor offered a resolution that the senate and house have a joint session February 1st to elect a state librarian.

On motion of Mr. Wright, of Rowan, the house adjourned until Monday at 12 o'clock in honor of the memory of Robert E. Lee.

The President Improving.

Washington, January 19.—The president is reported to be steadily regaining the ground lost during his recent illness, and is slowly assuming the full measure of his official functions.

Secretary Root is stated to be improving, as is also Admiral Dewey.

Pepsin preparations often fail to relieve indigestion, because they can digest only albuminous foods. There is one preparation that digests all classes of food, and that is Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. It cures the worst cases of indigestion and gives instant relief, for it digests what you eat. R. R. Bellamy.