

AWAITING THE GENERALS

No Immediate British Advance Expected in South Africa.

Jansfontein Farm, Three Miles East of the Boer Position, Shelled by General French on December 18. A Reconnaissance to the Northward Followed by Retirement.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Additional details, official and otherwise, continue to be received concerning the repulse of General Buller in his attempt to capture the Boers' position at Colenso. A summary of all the late advice only proves that the story of disaster has been fully given in reports already published.

No new move of any magnitude is expected until after the arrival in South Africa of Generals Buller and Kitchener, unless, as is not considered in the least probable, the Boer army is emboldened by heavy accessions to its strength to make an advance movement upon the British forces.

The War Office has received the following from General Buller: "I have been ordered to retire, and I have done so."

"Nothing fresh from Gatarece. French shelled Jansfontein Farm, three miles east of the enemy's position on December 18. The New Zealanders occupied a farm adjacent to the hill where the Boers were entrenched. The enemy's guns opened fire at 5,000 yards, and the Boers advanced. General French made a reconnaissance to the northward, and ordered a retirement. The New Zealanders were very steady, under a hot fire. One of their number was wounded."

"The Boers attacked Chief Khama, near Selika, on November 27, and Alibuchin village, near Sekwan, on November 29."

General Buller reports as additional casualties two lieutenants severely wounded.

General Lord Roberts, the commander-in-chief of the forces in South Africa, had a conference with the army board this morning. The Intelligence Department will furnish General Roberts with a mass of information that has been collected regarding the Boers' position.

THE BATTLE WITH CRONJE.

Methuen's Defeat Related in Advices Sent to Pretoria.

PRETORIA, via Lourenco Marques, Dec. 16.—(Delayed in transmission).—The following private advices have been received from Modder River regarding the Mearnsfontein battle:

"Having received large reinforcements and his army having rested since the 28th ultimo, Lord Methuen advanced against General Cronje's army, which occupied a position on both sides of the railway for many miles.

"The fighting opened with heavy cannonading at 4 o'clock in the morning under cover of which dense masses of infantry advanced toward the Boers. They were received by a steady fire which repulsed the advance before the English came within measurable distance. A strong attack met the same fate, although the English charged bravely against a hail of Mauser bullets.

"About this time men of the Scandinavian corps, who have a great record for reckless courage, charged and were cut off on a scrubby kopje. It is reported that they lost several killed and wounded and that many of them were made prisoners.

"In the afternoon all the British reserves were brought into the attack, which was delivered with sublime courage. The plains north of Modder River were black with the British forces, who were deployed in the attack. But no courage could break the Boers' defenses, and late in the day the British retreated to Modder River, leaving the ground covered with their dead and dying.

CAPTURES OF THE BOERS.

A Report From Pretoria of the Tugela River Fight.

LOURENCO MARQUES, Dec. 16.—(Delayed in transmission).—A despatch from Pretoria says a British reverse is reported from the Tugela River. The Boers took 208 prisoners. Two guns and thirteen ammunition wagons were also captured.

PRETORIA, Dec. 16.—(Delayed in transmission).—The following official reports have been given: "Heavy fighting continues at Colenso. Four British guns across the river were put out of action, and the gunners and horses killed. The British are shelling the Boers to prevent them from crossing the bridge and capturing the guns.

"There were two hours' artillery firing at the Modder River, beginning at 6 o'clock this morning. The Boer forces at Mafeking are drawing closer to the British positions."

THE ATTITUDE OF PORTUGAL.

Boers in Delagoa Bay.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—There are indications of considerable agitation in the press on the part of the public against the attitude of the Portuguese Government in allowing Delagoa Bay to be an open door where the Boers are receiving ammunition and recruits.

"The Globe" urges that England ought to assume direct control of Delagoa Bay during the war.

FOR DISTRICT IMPROVEMENTS.

Senator McMillan's Bill Affects a Railroad Company.

Mr. McMillan of Michigan, Chairman of the District Committee, introduced a bill in the Senate today to provide for several changes in that part of the line of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad Company which runs through Washington. Authority is to be given the company to construct a new station and yards at Sixth and B Streets, and in return for the permission so granted it must construct a fifty-foot arch as a public passageway for vehicular and pedestrian traffic beneath its tracks and structures on West Capitol Street. All tracks on Sixth Street must be removed and a new line of connection with the Sixth Street station established, which shall be satisfactory to the District Commissioners.

The United States Fish Commission building, which is now located on a part of the Mall on which the new station is to be located, is to be removed to a position west of the one it now occupies at the expense of the Government.

The bill provides for the abandonment for public use of several streets crossed by the line of the railroad, which are of little benefit to the public, and which would require large expenditures to keep them in repair.

The expenses of the contemplated changes are to be divided between the railroad company, the United States, and the District of Columbia, and are estimated by the latter being levied and assessed on private property in the District.

Two new bridges over the Potomac are to be built, the present Long Bridge being replaced by a new bridge for trucks only, at the company's expense, and a new iron or steel passenger bridge being constructed at a point above the present site of Long Bridge by the Government, under the direction of the Secretary of War.

In addition to the foregoing several important changes in the line of the road are projected, involving the construction of new bridges, the alteration of tracks at several points where conditions of traffic and of public safety render it necessary.

Five years is the time fixed upon for the completion of all of the proposed work.

BURIED IN THE COMMITTEE.

Fate of the Bill Favoring the West Indies Development Company.

The bill introduced by Representative Joy of Missouri to open up Cuba and Porto Rico to the West Indies Development Company, will, it was said at the Capitol today, never come back from committee.

The bill provides that "authority be granted by the United States to the West Indies Development Company to receive, acquire and operate, lease, sell, and convey concessions or franchises or rights or permits that the legally constituted governments of Cuba, Porto Rico, and such other island possessions that the United States does now or may hereafter recognize as legal governments of said island possessions do grant in the manner provided in such laws as may be enacted."

The immediate effect of the passage of this bill, it is claimed, would be the repeal of the Foraker-Mason resolutions that have been the basis of franchise-grabbers toward the close of the Fifty-fifth Congress.

HEAVY PUNISHMENT PROVIDED.

Representative Lacey's Bill Concerning Mail Train Obstruction.

Representative Lacey of Iowa has introduced a bill to punish obstruction to mail trains and trains engaged in interstate commerce. Any person who shall willfully obstruct the operation of any train of cars engaged in carrying the mails of the United States anywhere in the United States, Territories, or the District of Columbia, shall, for every such offense be punished by fine not exceeding \$5,000 and by imprisonment in the penitentiary not exceeding ten years.

The same penalty is prescribed for any person who shall willfully obstruct the operation of any train of cars engaged in carrying passengers, goods, wares, or merchandise from one State or Territory to another.

Representative White of North Carolina, in a bill which he has prepared, asks that an appropriation of \$15,000 shall be made for the expenses of an exhibit of negro education at the Paris Exposition.

Representative Dayton of West Virginia has offered a bill, which is now before the committee on Naval Affairs, which provides that each employee of the navy yards, gun factories, naval stations, and arsenals of the United States Government shall be granted thirty working days' leave of absence each year without forfeiture of pay.

MR. CULLOM'S BILL ATTACKED.

Pension Experts Charge That It Benefits Bonny Jumpers.

Senator Cullom's bill to correct the records of certain soldiers of the United States will be attacked with vigor should it be reported favorably by the committee to which it was referred. It is said that pension experts who have been investigating pending bills relating to the Pension Bureau have discovered that Senator Cullom's bill is really a measure to enable bonny jumpers, deserters and other undesirable relics of the late war to secure separation from their disabilities.

If the bill should become law, it is said that each bonny jumper and deserter who is now alive would enjoy the same legal standing as soldiers against whom no charges were ever preferred.

The pension experts regard the bill with disfavor chiefly because they are afraid that just as soon as the men who will become its beneficiaries appreciate the significance of their new standing they will push the Pension Office and demand substantial recognition.

LAI D AT REST IN ATLANTA.

The Last Rites Performed Over Lieutenant Brumby's Remains.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 20.—The remains of Lieutenant Brumby arrived at 5:30 this morning and are now lying in state at the Capitol under an honorary guard. Thousands of people through the building to gaze at the face of the man every one was paying tributes of honor to here only a few weeks ago.

NEW RESOLUTIONS DEBATED.

Mr. Hoar Asks for Equitable Rule in the Island Possessions.

The Matter Introduced in the Senate Today for Action—A Republican Form of Government Asked for Cuba, the Philippines, Porto Rico, and Hawaii—Other Business Done.

President pro tempore Frye laid before the Senate, when that body convened today, a communication from the Smithsonian Institution in regard to a vacancy in the board of regents, with a joint resolution proposing to fill it by the selection of Richard Alden, of Massachusetts.

Mr. Hoar commented upon the extraordinary circumstance of the Smithsonian Institution proposing to Congress the passage of a measure for the appointment of a member of the board of regents. It would be just as proper for the Supreme Court to notify the President of its selection of a Justice to fill a vacancy. The matter went over.

Mr. Hale sent to the clerk's desk and had read the proclamation issued yesterday in Havana by General Brooke on turning over the civil government of Cuba to General Wood. He said that the reading must arrest the attention of the Senate and the country. It was a most remarkable statement of the progress that had been made in Cuba in being brought to the present order, a condition which the people there must be ready, at some near day, to enter upon a government of their own.

General Brooke was to be congratulated on accomplishing so vast a work.

In the light of the communication Mr. Hale said he saw the nearer dawn of free government in Cuba than he had been able to see before. He supposed that the Committee on Cuban Affairs would be urged that much to be re-elected at condition in Cuba. He noticed that General Brooke, having been displaced, would come North, and he would be glad to hear personally what General Brooke had to say, and he had no doubt the committee would do so.

Mr. Allen was appointed to fill vacancies in the committees on Agriculture, Claims, Forest Reservations, and Commerce, Philippine Islands, and Penalties. Mr. Morgan gave notice of an amendment to Mr. Bacon's Philippine Islands resolution as follows:

"That in pursuance of section 4 of article 4 of the Constitution, the United States will guarantee to the people of Porto Rico, Hawaii, the Philippine Islands, and all other States and Territories which by appointment while the Pennsylvania legislature was in session.

It is maintained by the enemies of Mr. Quay that he is already defeated, and that he has damaged his cause by coming to Washington to assume personal command of his forces, thus calling greater attention to his case.

They claim that some Senators would have voted for Mr. Quay simply on personal grounds had his case not been made so conspicuous.

TO STUDY IMMIGRATION.

Joint Committee Proposed by Representative Barthold.

Representative Barthold of Missouri has introduced in the House of Representatives a joint resolution to create a commission to examine into the subject of immigration.

It is provided that a joint commission shall be created, consisting of three Senators, to be appointed by the President of the Senate, and three members of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House. This commission shall make full inquiry into the subject of immigration, its present extent and character, its influence upon the physical, moral, social, and material conditions of our people, and also the present system of administration of the laws on the subject, and the question whether the system or laws require any change or modification.

THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE.

Chairman Babcock Not to Organize It Until After the Holidays.

Chairman Babcock will not organize the District Committee until after the holiday recess.

Twenty-two District bills have been introduced, and referred by Chairman Babcock to the District Commissioners for a report on them.

It is believed that the committee will be able to have some local measure ready to call up on January 2, which, under the rule, will be the first District day of the session.

MEETS AND ORGANIZES.

House Elections Committee No. 1 Gets Ready to Hear Contests.

Elections Committee No. 1 met and organized this morning. Edward A. King, of Lisbon, Ohio, was reappointed clerk. The rules of the Fifty-fifth Congress were adopted for the guidance of the committee.

MR. PAYNE VOTED DOWN.

Defeated in an Attempt to Have the House Adjourn.

The Republican floor leader of the House, Mr. Payne, suffered his first defeat this morning. After the transaction of some routine matters which took but a few minutes, Mr. Payne moved that the House adjourn. At the request of Mr. Grow of Pennsylvania he withdrew the motion for a moment in order to allow that gentleman to make a statement concerning some remarks made by Mr. Gaines of Tennessee. Seeing that a controversy would ensue Mr. Payne renewed the motion to adjourn, thus cutting off Mr. Grow. A division was demanded and to the surprise of Mr. Payne every Democrat voted with the striking Republicans, led by Mr. Grow, against adjournment.

The only recourse left Mr. Payne was to demand the yeas and nays. When the Speaker announced the vote—81 to 105—there was a general applause on the Democratic side. Mr. Payne flushed. He demanded the regular order, which was the call of committee.

Mr. Grow asked unanimous consent to make a statement. The Speaker said the regular order had been demanded, and desired the clerk to proceed. Mr. Payne again renewed the motion to adjourn, and was again defeated on a division demanded by Mr. Grow, by a vote 79 to 89. He again demanded the yeas and nays, which were ordered.

THE QUAY PROTEST CASE.

The Senate Committee May Reach a Vote January 5.

The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections may vote on the Quay case Friday, January 5.

The committee will hold a meeting on that day, and the arguments which were presented by counsel last Saturday will be discussed.

It is understood that there will be no delay on the part of the committee, as each member is acquainted with all the features of the case. It is generally accepted at the Capitol as a fact that a majority of the committee will hold that Governor Stone, of Pennsylvania, had no right to fill a vacancy in the United States Senate by appointment while the Pennsylvania legislature was in session.

It is maintained by the enemies of Mr. Quay that he is already defeated, and that he has damaged his cause by coming to Washington to assume personal command of his forces, thus calling greater attention to his case.

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WAR DEPARTMENT GOSSIP CONCERNING THE FILLING OF HIS PLACE.

At the War Department today it was stated that the successor of General Lawton as major general of volunteers had not yet been determined upon. It is thought, however, that the position will fall to Brig. Gen. Samuel B. M. Young, of the Volunteers, who is now in the Philippines.

General Young is a colonel of the Third Cavalry in the regular army, and has a long record for gallantry in action. He enlisted as a private in the Twelfth Pennsylvania Infantry at the outbreak of the civil war, and was later made captain of the Fourth Pennsylvania. He was made a major general in 1864, and brevetted a major general for gallantry. He entered the regular army as a second lieutenant of the Twelfth Infantry in 1869, and has risen to the rank of colonel. He was made a brigadier general of volunteers May 4, 1898, and a major general July 8, 1898, but afterward reduced to a brigadier general with a number of other officers, who it became necessary to reduce down the number of major generals.

He commanded the cavalry in Cuba, and won the battle of Las Guasimas. His work in the Philippines has been of the brightest order.

The other brigadier generals now in the Philippines rank as follows: Joseph Wheeler, Theodore H. Schwab, Robert H. Hall, Lloyd Wheaton, F. D. Grant, R. P. Hughes, James S. Smith, and Frederick Funston. Wheeler, it is thought, will be made a brigadier general in the regular army and retired, and while the records of the other officers mentioned are excellent, it is believed that Young will be made a major general of volunteers and succeed to Lawton's command of the First Division, Eighth Army Corps.

Mr. Matlock, the Assistant Secretary of War, in speaking of General Lawton, said: "No braver soldier or more splendid gentleman ever lived than Lawton. If he had any faults, it was that he was too reckless of his own safety. But while he exposed himself, he was extremely careful of his men and always saw that they had all the shelter possible. He looked after the welfare of his troops, and they idolized him. He was a typical American soldier."

Col. William S. Patten, of the Quartermaster's Department, said: "I knew Lawton out West, and also while he was in Washington. He was a soldier of the first magnitude and a lovable gentleman. He had hosts of friends both in and out of the army, and his admirers were legion. He was undoubtedly one of the finest officers in the army, and his record in the civil war, against the Indians, and in Cuba and the Philippines is superb."

The President and Secretary Root discussed for a considerable time the advisability of sending the nomination to Congress, notwithstanding the death of the general. When the Secretary took his departure it was understood that the President will not follow this course today, and probably not at all.

MET DEATH IN A SKIRMISH.

General Lawton Fell in a Comparatively Trivial Fight.

Other Casualties in the Battle Estimated at Twenty Killed and Wounded—Body of the Dead Commander Being Escorted to Manila, Frequently Warned of Danger.

MANILA, Dec. 20.—(11:16 a. m.)—The fight in which General Lawton was killed is described as a comparatively trivial affair, simply a small part of the general scheme of finishing the campaign. Colonel Lockett's Eleventh Cavalry started to cross the San Mateo River, above town of the same name, for the purpose of flanking the insurgents, when their drink was heard. Lieutenant Colonel Sargent, with two battalions of the Twenty-ninth Volunteer Infantry, was to make the direct attack. General Lawton personally directed Lieutenant Colonel Sargent's crossing the river. Sargent was unable to cross immediately in front of San Mateo, as a typhoon had transformed the river into a torrent. General Lawton stood high up on the river bank watching Sargent's men. He wore the huge white helmet, under which he has courted death every time he has been under the insurgent fire, and a great yellow sash made him conspicuous. Captain Breckinridge, one of his aides, had been shot in the groin, and General Lawton went to speak to him as the latter was being carried away.

Colonel Sargent, Captain Sewall, another of the General's aides, warned Lawton that the insurgents were making a special effort to hit him. General Lawton was just about to speak to Captain Breckinridge, when he threw his hands up, blood spurted from his mouth, and he fell without saying a word. He had been shot squarely through the heart and died almost instantly.

Meantime Lieutenant Colonel Sargent had charged on the insurgents and drove them into Colonel Lockett's hands. Other losses were twenty killed and wounded. Captain Rogers, Troop F, Fourth Cavalry, General Lawton's guard, is bringing the general's body to Manila. Three other troops of the Fourth Cavalry will be sent to Marikina to escort the remains here.

The death of General Lawton was the heaviest loss possible to inflict on the Americans at this point. The ultimate result, of course, will not be changed, but it will be almost impossible to find a man to replace General Lawton.

The headquarters people are much affected by the sad news. It is not likely to have any effect on the insurgents, however, as they have already reported General Lawton killed in several engagements.

YOUNG MAY SUCCEED LAWTON.

War Department Gossip Concerning the Filling of His Place.

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AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Secretaries Long and Root and Others Confer With the President.

During the greater portion of the day at the White House the terms of the President were entirely devoted to conferences with Secretary Long, Secretary Root, and a large number of Senators and Representatives. Secretary Root's conference was in regard to the death of General Lawton. It had been the intention of the President to send to Congress today the nomination of General Lawton to be a brigadier general in the regular army, but the sad news of his sudden death changed this programme.

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ARMY AND NAVY CO-OPERATING IN THE PHILIPPINE CAMPAIGN.

The Navy and Army Continue Co-operating in the Campaign in Northern Luzon.

Commander Akeley, of the Concord, and Commander Leigh, of the Pampanga, assisted in the capture of Romblon.

FUND FOR MRS. LAWTON.

Comrades of the Dead Officer Would Pay Off a Mortgage.

Adjutant General Corbin started a movement today to pay off the mortgage on the home left by General Lawton at Redlands, Cal., in order that his wife and children may not be left destitute. As soon as Secretary Root reached his office General Corbin had a conference with him and the Secretary approved of the plan whereby the public would be given a chance to aid the family of General Lawton. General Corbin said: "General Lawton left little to his family besides a good name, which will live in history, but believing that I do that the whole country admired Lawton as a soldier and a gentleman of the highest type, I think the public will be glad to assist the family he left."

He died as a soldier, facing the enemy and fighting for his country, and no more fitting tribute could be paid him by the public than by seeing that his family did not suffer.

The army, I know, will contribute liberally, and I believe a substantial fund can be raised to assist the family of the dead hero."

The following is the bulletin issued by General Corbin:

Washington, D. C., December 20, 1899. Major General Henry W. Lawton, U. S. Volunteer, whose death occurred at San Mateo, Island of Luzon, on December 19, 1899, has left little but his good name as a legacy to his wife and children. A piece of property purchased by him and his family has been mortgaged, and the mortgage is still outstanding and unpaid. The undersigned has voluntarily associated himself with his comrades, and is raising funds to pay off the indebtedness. Contributions will be thankfully received by them, and will be used for the purpose stated. The aid of the newspapers of the country is requested.

Contributions will be received by any one of the following:

H. C. Corbin, Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.
John F. Weston, Acting Commissary General, Washington, D. C.
William G. Ladd, Brigadier General, Havana, Cuba.
William R. Shafter, Major General, San Francisco, Cal.
General Lawton's family will receive a pension of \$30 a month, the highest pension paid the families of deceased army officers. This sum will be in no way adequate to support his wife and four children. It is probable that Secretary Root will call the attention of Congress to the condition of Mrs. Lawton and her children.

General Lawton's home was at Redlands, Cal., and he was worth about \$15,000, leaving more than \$7,500 to be raised if the mortgage is lifted.

FILIPINO DESIGNS UPSET.

President of a Plan to Get Possession of Cavite.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—The transport Rio Janeiro brings details of the recent Filipino attack on the Cavite navy yard, which was an open buffet affair and not the serious assault some reported it as being at the time. The insurgents planned to attack Fort Eliza, on the isthmus of Daikhan, and under cover of this, which they thought would carry all the American troops to that point, they proposed to sneak over from Cavite Viejo in a fleet of small boats and capture the navy yard as an arsenal.

At the appointed time a scattering fire was directed at the marines in Fort Eliza. The Americans responded briskly with the rapid-fire guns, which quickly took all the desire to advance out of the Filipinos. When the noise of the firing warned them that the insurgents on the isthmus were trying to carry out their part of the programme, the rebels at Cavite Viejo swarmed into long wooden boats, each holding about thirty men. They depended on the shadows for motive power.

The rebels were only a little way from the shore when they encountered danger from an unexpected quarter. The searchlight of the gunboat Petrel beamed upon them, and the well-aimed shots from the Petrel caused the rebel fleet to be turned about in hot haste. The insurgents paddled desperately to reach shore. One opened shell from the Petrel struck an insurgent boat amidships, knocked it to splinters, and killed every rebel on board. The others were beached near the mouth of the creek and the Filipinos scattered inland.

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HOLIDAY RATES TO PITTSBURGH, ETC., VIA PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

Excursion Tickets Washington to Pittsburg, Concoctville, Uniontown, Dravosburg, Souda, Braddock, Dunbar, Fairbairn, Mt. Pleasant, and Johnstown, Pa., on December 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31, 1900, at rate of fare and one-third for round trip.

To-Kalam Sherry, 75 cents full half gallon bottle, 614 Fourteenth Street.

BOLD WORK OF BANDITS.

Passengers on a Sleeping Car Robbed of Their Valuables.

One Thief Guards the Conductor and Porter, While the Others Collect Valuables in Possession of Passengers—After Their Operations They Turn on Air Brakes and Escape.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec