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Penniman Bros. & Co. Xmas Week.

Beginning Tuesday, 19th, we will offer for sale the finest line of carving sets ever shown in Asheville, at a reduction of from 25 to 33 per cent. less than they have ever been sold.

Also a line of pocket cutlery Worth 50 cents for 25 cents. % Our 50c. Razor will cost you \$1.00

anywhere. We carry in stock a fine line of Electric Razors and Pocket Cutlery, every one fully guaranteed. Call and examine our stock before buying.

THE VICTIMS OF THE MAINE.

Washington, Dec. 16 .- The war department contracted with the Chesabeake and Ohio railroad today to move from Newport News to Washington 166 bodies of the Maine victims which will arrive at Newport News on the Texas about December 20.

Grant's No. 24 cures Colds and La Grippe. Quickly controls chills, fever and pain. 25c. at Grant's.

A nice piece of Furniture is nice for X-mas Present. Have you been to Mrs L. A. Johnsons?—43 Patton ave.

Mrs. F. R. Darby says: "Camphor-line is not only good for chapped hands but for burns and inflamed surfaces also. My husband would have been badly burned the other day had I not used Camphor ine quickly and freely."

The Casualties of the British at Tugela River Number More than a Thousand.

England's Disasters Will Spread Rebellion in Cape Colony.

and Lace. Prices from 4c. to \$2.00 Campaign on a New Basis Must Now Be Undertaken.

> Is Cleary Advancing to the Relief of Ladysmith?

GENS. METHUEN, GATACRE AND FRENCH WILL BE MENACED IN THE REAR BY THE UPRISING FORCES OF CAPE DUTCH-PRE-TORIA REPORTS ACCESSIONS FROM THIS SOURCE—BODIES OF THE BRITISH DEAD WITHI THE BOER LINES CREMATED. THE TRANSVAAL'S LOSSES AT MAGERSFONTEIN-IS TALK OF SEIZING DELAGOA BAY AS A WAY OF ENTERING TRANS-VA'AL.

London, Dec. 16.-Amid the gloom Africa remains unshaken. The determination to win. regardless of cost, is, however, coupled with the resolve to within the memory of living man.

Despatches indicating the number of Boers engaged in the battles of the current week make it clear that the Boer forces are many thousands greater than their own resources explain, This week's British disaster will almost part of Cape Colony, and then Methuen, Gatacre and French will be menaced almost as seriously in the the rear as in front.

This is the most serious feature of the situation, and the one which most alarms the country. The week's campaign practically ended in a complete defeat of the British arms. An entirely now be undertaken. Not a single Britoffensively except at desperate risks. success along the line.

GATACRE MENACED.

There are already rumors that Gatacre is menaced in ther ear and his communication with East London endangered.

TALK OF SEIZURE OF DELAGOA BAY.

Buller meantime cannot safely move until his lost guns are replaced. Moreover the indications are that he will be unable to relieve Ladysmith until strongly reinforced. The move which all military men advise and one which is obviously best from all but a political point of view is the immediate seizure of Delagoa bay and the invasion of the Transvaal through Portuguese territory. The foreign office hesitates to make such a move.

CAPE DUTCH JOIN THE BOERS. Pretoria, Dec. 13 (Delayed) .-- Nine hundred colonial Dutch at Barkly, 2,000 at Barkly East and 1,500 at Burguersdorf have joined the Boers.

A RAY OF HOPE.

London, Dec. 16 .- There is one faint; ray of hope in Natal to which the uniniated are clinging. Buller's despatch does not mention General Cleary, who is second in command. It is surmised he is leading a strong column across the Tugela river farther east or west

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to divert attention from where Buller's MOODY DID NOT SAY main attack was expected to be made. Military critics expected an attack near Colenso would be a feint only. Buller's despatch indicates that it was more than that. The idea of another movement being executed elsewhere is not, however, precluded by Buller's ve- Expects Him to Win the Seat in Confull force, which amounts to 20,000 men, were engaged in Friday's disastrous battle. It is fondly hoped that the next news will show some improvement in the situation.

BULLER REPORTS LOSSES

London, Dec. 16.-The war office has received this despatch from Buller: were: Officers and men killed, \$2; wounded, 667; missing, 348."

killed, .forty-one wounded, fourteen prisoners and three missing. "Colonel Brooke is dangerously, Col-

onel Long severely and Colonel Hunt

slightly wounded. "Major Charley died of his wounds." Captain Robe ts was severely wounded working to that end. in the Tugela river fight yesterday morning while leading some men to

rescue the guns. He is in a precarious

condition.

CREMATION OF BRITISH DEAD, Modder River, Dec. 15 (Delayea) .-Mutual arrangements were made by the British and Boers providing for the burning of the British deald at Magersfontein on Wednesday and Thursday. The chaplain of the Highland regiment was chosen, the Boers stipulating that only a clergyman of the Reformed church should officiate. Members of detachment accompanying the chaplain were blindfolded and not allowed to come within six hundred

yards of the Boer lines. The Boers assisted the English in the task of cremating the bodies. They said they would have given full details regarding the English dead, wounded and prisoners if the British had furnished them similar information.

THE BOER LOSSES Boers declared that their casualties at Magersfontein were 262, and that they had only 63 killed. The British say this must be a mistake, as they buried 45 Boers and had seen many other corpses which had been removed before they reached the Boer lines. Some of the Highlanders got so close in the galleries.

to the trenches during the fight that and grief which overwhelmed England their kilts were torn off. The Boers coday confidence in the final triumph say they would have enfiladed them cuss the matter before the house, but of the British army throughout South but were afraid of killing their own men. The Boers have 62 British pris-

hills and definitely located the Boer only republican in the house that did fix and enforce the responsibility for position. The Boers say the lyddite ste Now, I expect to yote for this bill Havana says it is uncertain yet wheththe disasters which have brought the shells were harmless when they fell on and I think, Mr. Chairman, that it is er he will return to the United States darkest days Great Britain has known the earth but destructive when they fell on stony places. Only one in four exploded.

ENFILADED THE TRENCHES.

Another despatch from Modder River, dated the 13th, says that yesterday the Boer prisoners boasted they could certainly spread rebellion to a large have held Magersfontein two weeks. They said that if the Highland brigade had massed and stormed the trenches after the first surprise the British losses would have been heavfer because the Boers from the Kopje on the other side were ready to enfilade the trenches if captured.

The Gordon Highlanders were sent against the Boers' trenches at 10 new campaign on a new basis must o'clock this morning. The Boers waitish column is now in condition to act then enfilleded them. Early in the fighting the Highland brigade almost The enemy now has all the prestige of annihilated the Scandinavian contingent. It is stated that the Boers' force number 14,000.

> THE BOERS' JSS AT MODDER RIVER.

Cape Town, Dec. 13 (Delayed) .- A prisoner who has arrived here says that the Boers' loss at Modder River was 1,500. He says that trenches were dug and the dead placed therein un-

It is stated that General Gatare has fallen back to his original position. It is the general opinion that he should occupy Cypher Gat, where there is a position called Bushman's strong Kraal.

STOCK EXCHANGE EXCITED. London, Dec. 16 .- News of the defeat of Buller at Tugela river caused a momentary panic on the exchange here today, where there was intense exitement in all departments. Immediately

(Continued on fourth page.)



Some Men Must Encounter a Wall

before they can see it. They do not realize that there is anything wrong with their eyes until they are seriously affected. When you detect a slight defect come to us. It might become serious if neglected, while the proper glasses would correct it now.

BAKER&CO

Scientific Opticians.

45 Patton Ave. - Blair's Furniture Store, EXAMINATION FREE.

PEARSON WOULD FAIL

gress-Linney's Speech on the

Gazette Bureau,

Finance Bill.

Washington, Dec. 16. I have today seen a letter from Mafor James M. Moody in which he indig-"Our losses in the battle of the 15th nantly repudiates the alleged interview in the News and Observer predicting that Richmond Pearson will lose in his The foregoing includes seven officers contest. The interview is a silly fietion, as Moody said nothing of the kind to a reporter or any one else. It

shows the usual disposition of that variety of newspaper to misrepresent actual conditions and prominent republicans and well known democrats, both Dublin, Dec. 16 .- A despatch receiv- in and out of congress. Major Mooly ed here today says that the son of predicts Pearson's success and is

A telegram received by George K. Pritchard says that fire destroyed the home of W. L. Lambert and Odd Fellows' hall and damaged the jail at Bakersville yesterday.

Arthur D. Barnes, appointed messenger in the senate by the Senator Farsom, was found dead in bed at his home in Wilson, N. C. His death was due to apoplexy.

Congressman Linney has introduced a second time his bill looking to a reduction of the tax on spirituous liquor from \$1.10 to 70 cents per gallon. Mr. Linney, who introduced the bill last now excessive.

Congressman Linney took part in the discussion of the currency bill Friday. The speech was generally complimented and was listened to with the prisoners. close attention by those on the floor and

"Mr. Chairman: I feel some little embarrassment in attempting to dis-I think I see the way, and the thoughte justified. I voted for the Teller Today the British guns shelled the resolution in this house, and was the a matter of duty to vote for it. I have for this proposition, laying aside entirely the question of my loyalty to the

> republican party. (Applause.) "Sir, this financial question has been discussed for twenty long years. The sprightly, eloquent gentleman from Indiana (Mr. Robinson) complained of the 'gag law.' Why, the discussion begun in 1873, and there has been a con- harmony with other presidential utstant, unrestricted, unrestrained, unobstructed flow of argument in the shape of periodicals and eloquence extending from the far and wooly west

to the Atlantic ocean, as steady in its course as the roar of the mighty Columbia river over the Cascades or of ing to welcome Wood on his arrival. ed until they reached the trenches and the Niagara over the cataracts. (Laugh ter and applause.) Yet the gentleman complains that he has been 'gagged.' (Laughter.) Why, the whole thing has become hoary with age. It is the grandfather question now in these United States." (Renewed laughter.) After discussing the reference made

by President McKinley to the money question, in his message, and after a thorough reference to other phases of the subject. Mr. Linney concluded by saying:

"The present law has met the demands of increased population, has met the increased diversified industries and everything of that sort; and it is wonderful. There are in my state two streams, the Catawba and the Yadkin, running through it with laughing, rippling waters, and they both run over fifty miles. I suppose in those streams there are at least 500 shoals.

"These splendid shoals and the countries immediately around them have been inhabited only by the bat and owl ever since man existed and ever since the morning stars sang together. What is the condition now? Industry has been stirred up; new life has been given; more money has come into the country and more labor found good employment at higher wages, and capitalists are seeking investments in that country on those shoals, until now in all that large area we have fabulous prices, thousands, tens of thousands. | and hundreds of thousands of dollars in some instances, offered for the berren rocks and sterile hills in the Catawba and Yadkin valleys for shoa's that have lain there from the foundation of the world to the present without turning a spindle or yielding a solitary cent for the state of North Carolina. It is not an extravagant dream picture to expect that within the next ten years, under the stimulating effect of the system of revenue and finance now existing, millions of dollars will be invested by sound money capitalists to bless and cheer the noble boys of Carolina by opening up new lines of hope founded in the existence of these

great enterprises. "Now, Mr. Chairman, in view of these wonderful results, surpassing in realization the wildest dreams of the most enthusiastic American that now exists or anything ever thought of, we have an idea of what has been accomplished. But the suggestion has been made during this discussion that if all this has happened, or resulted from the present revenue or financial policy of the administration, why pass this bill; why not let well enough alone? The answer is this: Much as the

existing law has accomplished, still better results are within our reach.

it now exists. Who has pointed it out? Both parties in this country have pointed it out. President Cleveland pointed It out. I believe he was the author of the expression, "the endless chain" was he not? Since that time President Mc-Kinley has pointed it out, and the exbusiness men who are most interested in maintaining the highest business activity, have analyzed it, and they say that this is the only infirmity the system possesses today. This bill is intended to correct this infirmity and make it a perfect system. To do so we remove the infirmity; and it is the salvation of the south and west. I do not see how any southern or western man can hesitate to give his vote for, or how any North Carolinian can think of voting against, this proposi-

"Here is a proposition that allows communities in the south and west having only 2,000 population to organize banks on a capital, I believe, of \$25,000. The present law requires a minimum of \$50,000. So it works it

(Continued on fifth page.)

TRANSVAAL REFUSED PART OF OUR REQUEST.

United States Will Continue to Petition in Behalf of British Prisoners.

Washington, Dec. 16.-The action of the Transvaal government in granting only a portion of the concessions requested by this government in behalf of the British prisoners at Pretoria has year in accordance with a suggestion intensified the feeling in official circles from the secretary of the treasury, here growing out of the manner in will make a special effort to have which the Boers have treated the huthe bill enacted into law at once. It is manitarian overtures of the United claimed that the treasury will have States. While the Transvaal authorit- under the five minute rule. Proceednothing to lose by such a law and les have agreed to furnish lists of Brit- ing under this rule the first section of that it will have a tendency to greatly ish prisoners and information concerndecrease illicit distilling, as the tax is ing the condition of the sick and the day spent in continuance of the wounded, they have refused to permit general debate. the distribution of money among the prisoners to buy toacco and delicacies. The United States will continue to press for more favorable treatment of

CUBAN NEWSPAPERS APPROVE GEN WOOD'S APPOINTMENT

Havana, Dec. 16 .- The papers unani ful way, too, by which my course can mously approve the appointment of General Wood as governor general of Cuba. The Journal in referring to the approaching visit of General Wilson to with Brooke. The paper predicts that reasoned myself to the conclusion that the post of military governor of Hawill best serve my country by voting vana will probably be abolished, stating that the continance of such an office would probably result in friction between Wood and Ludlow.

THINKS IT MEANS ANNEXATION

Havana, Dec. 16.-Nuéva Pais says that McKinley's message is in perfect terances regarding Cuba, all of which, it declares, go directly to prove the intention of the United States to annex Cuba. The paper believes, however, that Woold is the best man for governor general. Great preparations are mak-

It is reported General Wilson will re sign because Brooke is succeeded by

Bugler, Cassin, of Roosevelt's rough riders, has been sentenced to two years and four months for shooting a Cuban major last March.

A SWIFT TORPEDO BOAT

Bath, Me., Dec. 16.-The torpedo boat Craven in an official trial here today showed a speed of over thirty

EX PRESIDENT CLEVELAND ILL

yellow rim of her own brightness sur-

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 16.-Ex-Presi

dent Cleveland is confined to his resi-

dence suffering from inflamatory rhea-

"ON THE SQUARE"

> WE SELL

GANDLES..

Agency

"Rockbrook Farm"

CREAMERY BUTTER.

Clarence Sawyer,

Successor to

W. F. SNIDER. No. 6 Morth Court Square.

existing law has accomplished, still better results are within our reach. There is an infirmity in the system as ON FINANCE BILL

perts of finance in this country, the Acrimonious Dispute But Little Argument in the Closing Debate.

> A 16 to 1 Amendment Failed to Materialize.

Each Side Accused the Oher of Preventing it.

Lentz Branches Out into Denunciation of England and United States. THINKS WE OUGHT TO TAKE A

HAND IN THE FIGHT IN SOUTH AFRICA IN BEHALF OF THE BOERS-RESOLUTION TO RECOG-NIZE BELLIGERENCY.

Washington, Dec. 16.-There was some jockeying for position and a hot time at the close of the week's debate on the financial bill in the house this afternoon. The contest ended in & dead heat. Saturday had been set aside for the consideration of the bill the bill was read and then the rest of

No effort was made on either side to stop the discussion and to read the bill, and the last twenty minutes were filled with charges and counter charges of hypocricy in dealing with the bill. The democratic leader, Richardson, complained that the republicans did not desire to give an opportunity to offer amendments and Dalzell retorted that the democrats were afraid to risk a vote on an amendment proposing the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 12 to 1. The democrats made several attempts to offer such a resolution but they were prevented either by the ruling of the chair or by the gold democrats, led by Driggs, of New York. So the contest closed without advantage on either side.

TRANSVAAL BELLIGERENCY. Representative Sulzer today introduced a resolution declaring that a state of public war exists between England and the ransvaal, and that belligerent rights be accorded the Transvaal. Lentz, of Ohio, while talking on the financial bill, branched off into a denunciation of England and the United States, accusing them of shooting down liberty in South Africa and the Philippines respectively. He declared that there was evidence that both governments were operating on parallel lines. He asked if things are not inside out how can the republican party stand impotent and silent while England is shooting to death a republic in South

PAYNE RESOLUTION FAILED.

Not Considered by the Republican National Committee.

Washington, Dec. 16.-The national republican committee, after a short session this morning adjourned subject to the call of the chairman. The Payne resolution providing for representation in the national convention on the basis of votes cast in a presidential election was abandoned, owing to the opposition of the administration. The southern element of the republican party has been strongly opposed to the

A committee was appointed to have charge of the arrangements for the convention. The Leland resolution was not considered.

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