

Asheville Daily Gazette.

VOL. IV: NO. 178.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 29, 1899.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

OESTREICHER & CO. HILLS BECOME FORTRESSES

51 Patton Avenue.

In order to close out quick we have made another large price reduction on all of our Jackets, Golf Capes, Cloth Capes and Fur Capes, Fur Boas and Collarettes.

In addition we offer a large variety of special Holiday Goods at very close prices.

Our line of Silk Mufflers and Handkerchiefs for ladies and men is unsurpassed.

Umbrellas for holiday gifts range from 50c to \$12 each.

All our goods are priced low.

OESTREICHER & CO

51 Patton Avenue.

..MASSAGE.. AND PACKS.

Treatment for: NERVOUS, RHEUMATIC and OTHER DISEASES.

Special: THURE BRANDT MESSAGE FOR FEMALE DISEASES; ALSO FACE MASSAGE.

PROF. EDWIN GRUNER, (Graduate Chemnitz College, Germany. Formerly with Oakland Heights Sanitarium.)

65 S. MAIN ST. TELEPHONE 206. Home or Office Treatment. Office hours, 11 a. m. to 1 p. m., 2 to 4 p. m.

C. M. CASE, M. D. OSTEOPATH,

formerly of 18 Church street, is in town this week to see about reopening offices here in association with Dr. and Mrs. Willard. Those interested will please call him up at No. 99 Haywood St.

TELEPHONE 349.

IF YOU want to rent a house or buy a house;

OR IF YOU have a house for rent or a house for sale,—consult us, we can assist you.

WILKIE & LABARBE, Real Estate Agents, 23 Patton Avenue.

Boers Converting the Heights About Colenso Into Powerful Forts.

Main Positions Connected by Underground Passages.

Changes Worked by Aid of European Officers.

White Signals He Can Hold Out For Several Weeks More.

STORMY WEATHER CAUSES RISE OF TUGELA RIVER WHICH MAY ENABLE BULLER TO CORNER SOME BOERS—FAVORABLE REPORT FROM METHUEN.

London, Dec. 29.—The war news continues unimportant, chiefly recording daily reconnaissances and long range bombardments. Stormy weather in Natal is causing a rise in the Tugela river, which, according to one correspondent should enable Buller to catch most of the Boers southward of Colenso in the next few days. Another correspondent asserts that the road bridge over the Tugela was less damaged by the British guns than was supposed and that the Boers are apparently able to use it. The correspondents declare that naval guns are damaging the enemy's trenches at Colenso, at which, however, the Boers are constantly working.

MESSAGE FROM LADYSMITH. General White continues to telegraph cheerful messages from Ladysmith to Chieveley, representing that he is able to resist for six or eight weeks more with comparative ease, nevertheless it is evident that the enemy's shell fire has improved at Ladysmith, as elsewhere, and the casualties among the besieged British are increasing.

BOERS STRONGLY FORTIFIED. London, Dec. 29.—The daily Mail's correspondent at Pietermaritzburg, in a despatch dated December 23, declares that the character of the campaign has changed, owing to European officers joining the Boers. The British, he says, are no longer fighting a guerrilla foe, but what is rapidly becoming a disciplined army. The Boers have converted the hills at Colenso into fortresses of immense strength, with main positions connected by underground passages. Tramways have been laid, enabling the guns to be shifted with astonishing rapidity. Their ammunition also is of an improved quality. Their shells now burst better.

METHUEN'S REPORT.

London, Dec. 28.—The war office has received the following from Cape Town dated Wednesday, December 27: "Methuen reports as follows: 'At 9:30 yesterday evening the Boers on the south side of Magerfontein opened a very heavy fire for some time. This morning the naval brigade fired at the enemy at the west part of Magerfontein. A cavalry brigade is reconnoitering in a northwesterly direction. Lieutenant Masters has made an extended reconnaissance westward and northward of Emsley and reports all well. The farmers are glad to see our men. They were suffering from a want of food. I have established a market here where I can purchase fresh milk and vegetables, selling to farmers tea and other articles which they cannot otherwise purchase. A heavy rain fell last night.'"

Gatacre and French report no change in the situation. Baden-Powell reports all well December 12. In view of the apparent supineness of the British commanders in preventing the daily strengthening and extending of the Boer positions along the Tugela and Modder rivers, which are now considered practically impregnable, many experts here are coming to the conclusion that the British have given up the idea of carrying these positions by assault and will await the transport and cavalry required to give the forces the necessary mobility. There is nothing to indicate that the beleaguered garrisons are in any special straits calling for immediate relief. The latest reports from Kimberley, where the shortage is most feared, report plenty of food. An interesting feature of today's news is the patriotic offer of service from Indian princes. Nozan of Hyderabad, replying to a toast proposed by Lord Curzon, viceroy, at a banquet in Calcutta last evening, said the proudest title he possessed was being the queen's faithful ally, adding that his purse, army and sword were ever at her disposal. The maharajah of Gwalior has asked permission to serve on General Roberts' staff and offered to send troops, horses and transport to South Africa. Many Cretans in Athens are offering their services to the British consul for the war in South Africa.

CAN'T TURN BOER RIGHT FLANK. Modder River, Dec. 28.—The Boers wasted a large quantity of ammunition last night. They apparently thought that the cavalry reconnoissance yesterday morning was the forerunner of an attack in force, and imagining, about 7 o'clock last night, that the British were about to advance, the

Boers in the forward trenches began firing in the direction of the outposts. Their fusillade was harmless. Reconnoissance by the cavalry in force was made this morning due west of the Modder river station. It was found that the enemy held the country for considerable distance to the westward. This will make an attempt to turn their right flank, almost impossible.

PESSIMISM AT CAPE TOWN.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—A special cablegram to the Record from Cape Town says: "The prevailing tone of sentiment here regarding the British campaign is one of extreme pessimism. Old colonists fear that the Boers' present tactics of entrenching themselves in all their positions will necessitate the use of British artillery, howitzers and men on a scale hitherto unthought of. It is believed also that the campaign must inevitably be lengthened to nine or twelve months. It is acutely feared that such a prolongation of the war will involve native and other complications. The British colonists fear that if Great Britain fails to annihilate the Boer republics they will become a military menace.

ONLY HOPE IN MEDIATION.

Thoughtful men here, of most nationalities, feel that if the United States or Switzerland could make friendly mediation, securing for the uitlanders a reasonable franchise guaranty, equality of languages and judicial and official reform, leaving the republics the enjoyment of independence and obtaining from the British government a treaty of arbitration in case of new differences, the war might be brought to a speedy close. Otherwise it is thought nothing can be expected but a weary campaign, which will amount to a war of extermination and will mean the commercial ruin of South Africa. Already the war has brought keen suffering to the uitlanders, among whom much distress is apparent.

WOULD HURT THE CAPE AND NATAL.

The seaport communities of Cape Colony and Natal are alarmed and indignant because of the agreement said to have been reached between Cecil Rhodes and the German government permitting the building of a railway from the west coast to Rhodesia by way of the Transvaal. The building of such a line would prove a decided blow to the maritime interests of Cape Colony and Natal.

HAS ENGLAND SECURED DELAGOA BAY?

Alleged Secret Treaty Between Germany and Great Britain.

New York, Dec. 28.—A despatch from Berlin says the Lokal Anzeiger publishes the contents of the German English-Portuguese secret treaty. The English Portuguese secret treaty. This double treaty will have executive force as soon as the Swiss jurists Messrs. Blaessel, Hensler and Goldau have given a decision in the Delagoa arbitration. England obtained in 1891 from Portugal the right of pre-emption in Delagoa bay. The consent of Portugal to the arrangement has already been obtained in March next.

England concluded a secret treaty with Germany regarding the complete partition of the Portuguese colonial possessions. Germany is to receive all the Portuguese possessions in Asia with 20,000 square miles of territory and a million inhabitants. Germany further receives in Africa all the Portuguese territory north of Mozambique except a strip of land three miles wide for Cecil Rhodes' Trans-African railway. For this the German government will pay Portugal twenty-five million marks. England receives the remaining African possessions of Portugal, which contain two million square kilometers and have a million inhabitants. The consent of Portugal to the arrangement has already been obtained in principal.

LONG ISLAND DUTCHMEN.

West Saville, L. I., Dec. 28.—Three hundred native Hollanders, who comprise about half the population in this place, are talking of organizing a volunteer company with the object of joining the Boer forces in South Africa. Recently between \$200 and \$300 was collected here for the relief of the Boer wounded. Many young men here are ready to enlist if they can be assured of reaching the Boer army.



A PAIR OF GOLD FRAMED GLASSES FOR CHRISTMAS. Makes a very appropriate present. The lenses can be exchanged for new ones properly fitted to the eyes afterwards. Bear this in mind if you want to make some one a present who now has only steel frames. We guarantee our work and our goods. BAKER & CO. Scientific Opticians, 45 Patton Ave.—Blair's Furniture Store. EXAMINATION FREE.

THE CRUISE OF THE MONTGOMERY.

Denial That She Was Doing Police Duty for the British in South African Waters

Washington, Dec. 28.—The navy department today most explicitly denied Senator Mason's implied allegations that the cruiser Montgomery visited Sierra Leone in accordance with the understanding with England that she was doing police duty for the British in South African waters in the absence of British warships, withdrawn because of the Boer war, but that particular denial is about the only explicit thing that the department has to say on the subject. Secretary Long said the places visited were on her station. It was learned at the navigation bureau that the Montgomery was now at Buenos Ayres, but the officer in charge of the bureau said he did not know when she arrived there. He said it was his impression that the Montgomery left South America for Africa on November 1 and visited Free Town, the 150 victims of the Maine disaster to South America, but beyond that he stated that he knew nothing. The most plausible explanation yet obtained from a reliable source is that the Montgomery was sent to Liberia to ascertain the truth of the reports that England and Germany contemplated seizing the country.

BRYAN TO BE GUEST OF HONOR AT LINCOLN BANQUET

Expected to Outline Platform For National Democratic Convention.

Lincoln, Dec. 28.—Bryan will be the guest of honor at the annual banquet of the Nebraska Training Men's club here on January 5th. It is expected that his speech will be notable, as it will be the first of a series to be made at Democratic banquets in the west in which Bryan is expected to outline the platform for the national democratic convention. Nearly a thousand invitations have been issued and many prominent democrats are expected to attend. Norman E. Mack, of Buffalo, has accepted an invitation but declined to make a speech. Acceptances to speak have been accepted from governors of Minnesota and Colorado, and ex-Governor Hogg, of Texas.

Three dollars a plate is the price fixed, and it is expected that 500 persons will attend. Bryan wired today that he would leave for the north Saturday. After the Lincoln speech, he will go east.

BRYAN AND HOGG WILL RACE OSTRICHES.

An Exhibition Contest at Austin Tomorrow.

Austin, Dec. 28.—Ex-Governor Hogg is determined to give Bryan a good time and as much notoriety as is possible during his stay at Austin. Hogg purchased two ostriches at a San Antonio ostrich farm three years ago, and Hogg have had much fun riding them around the vacant lot during the past few weeks. In order to determine which bird is the fleetest arrangements have been made to give an exhibition race between the birds on next Saturday. Bryan will ride one of the birds and Hogg the other. It is expected a big crowd of visitors will be here to witness it.

FOR BRYAN AND FREE SILVER.

Governor Johnston of Alabama on Democratic Issues

New York, Dec. 28.—Governor Johnston of Alabama, was in New York today. Johnston said that a campaign between



ARE YOU IN A GOOD HOUSE? Does it fill your requirements? If not call in and talk to us. We are REAL ESTATE brokers and have houses for rent and homes, the best for investments. Elegant homes for the rich, neat homes at moderate prices for those of moderate means. We would like to keep some that are on our lists, but it's our business to rent and sell; so the first fair offers get them. One elegantly furnished house, rooms, fine location—for rent if taken at once. Weaver & Alexander, 28 Patton Ave. P. O. Box 244

himself and Morgan would be fought out largely on national issues. "Democrats in my state," said Johnston, "believe in the free silver issue, and they are for the nomination of Bryan." He predicted that Morgan's recent utterances would probably cost him many votes. "Our people," he said, "are opposed to imperialism and trusts, but in the next national campaign the issues of '96 will again be the main issues and Bryan will be the democratic candidate for president."

ADVANCE IN HEMP UNLESS PORTS OPEN.

War Department Says No Trouble Will Be Incurred.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The early opening of ports in the Philippines continues to be urged upon General Otis by Secretary Root. The latter has been overwhelmed with appeals to secure the opening of all ports by February 1st. The price of binding twine, it is said, will advance considerably unless this is done.

The farmers of the west have shown considerable anxiety about the reports that the price of twine would be enormously high unless the ports are open. Representative Long of Kansas has written the war department, asking what is being done. Assistant Secretary of War Melkjohn in a letter to Long says the war department is doing everything compatible with the requirements of the military situation to develop the trade of the Philippines, and he is confident that the so-called hemp ports will be open in ample time for the hemp to reach this country to be manufactured before next harvest.

THREATS MADE AGAINST A CLAIRVOYANT.

Accused of Responsibility For Augusta Conflagrations.

Augusta, Dec. 28.—This city is excited today over threats that have been made against Mrs. Ward Blythe, a clairvoyant, and who declared, according to rumor, that Augusta would be visited by a disastrous conflagration before the end of the year. Open threats are being made against the woman, some saying she should be arrested. She denies she predicted the recent fires, and declares she has been treated very shamefully. There are many who say she is responsible for the fires, because of her prophesy including weak minded persons to become firebrands. More than a million dollars has gone up in smoke in Augusta in the month of December. It has just so happened that each of the three big fires—the Broad street block, Berry's flower mill, and Perkins' lumber yard—were of such character as to make saving the property impossible and the loss complete.

CUBANS BEGIN ASKING FAVORS OF GEN. WOOD.

Appointments He Will Probably Make For Prominent Offices.

Havana, Dec. 28.—General Wood is overwhelmed with callers seeking favors. The palace is crowded all day. From a reliable source it is understood that General Wood will appoint President Estevez, of the Cuban national party, secretary of justice, and Senor Villalon, secretary of public works. The latter is a graduate of Lehigh University. It is understood that Senor Varona, ex-editor of the Patria will be appointed secretary of public instruction.

MURDER NEAR NORFOLK.

Norfolk, Dec. 28.—The dead body of C. Beverly Turner was found last night in the yard of a country home at Perquimans wharf on the James river. He had a bullet wound in his neck. Suspicion points to Nick Gilligan, a neighbor's son, as the murderer, he having recently been ordered by Turner to cease attentions to the latter's daughter. Gilligan cannot be found.

A LA BRITISH

Colon, Dec. 28.—There was an important engagement in the department of Santander between the government troops and the revolutionists today. The censorship restrictions prevented cabling the issue of the battle.

For Favors 1899

You have our sincere thanks.

For 1900

Our best wishes.

2 ounce package.....3c
4 ounce package.....6c
While it lasts.

CLARENCE SAWYER
Successor to W. F. Sinder,
6 NORTH COURT SQUARE.

LUZON PORTS OPEN NEW YEARS

Dagupan, San Fernando, Vigan, Laoag and Aparri Included.

Subject to Usual Coasting Trade Regulations.

Custom Houses at Sulu Ports Will Also Open.

Ports of Siasi Group Open January 26th.

MILITARY GOVERNOR OF THE ARCHIPELIGO ORDERED TO ESTABLISH PROVOST COURTS.— JURISDICTION WILL EXTEND OVER ALL OFFENSES COMMITTED BY INHABITANTS.—SKIRMISH IN THE MOUNTAINS.

Manila, Dec. 28.—Colonel Lockett, with the 11th volunteer cavalry, yesterday attacked 1,000 insurgents in the Montaban mountains, the scene of several defeats.

After a three hours bombardment, the enemy was dislodged and scattered to the northwest. The insurgent casualties were not reported. The Americans had five men wounded.

It is reported that the insurgent newspaper Independencia has been re-suscitated, and is being printed in a mountain cave.

TO OPEN PORTS.

On New Years day the ports of Dagupan, San Fernando, Vigan, Laoag and Aparri in Luzon will be declared open to commerce, subject to the usual coasting trade regulations. General Bates will sail for Zamboanga, island of Mindanao, tomorrow. His instructions are to open the custom houses at Sulu ports and at Zamboanga, Catabotto, Davao and Basilan, in Mindanao. Zamboanga may be included in the Jolo district. The ports of the Siasi group, southwest of the Jolo group will be declared open January 26.

PROVOST COURTS.

The military governor of the Archipeligo has been ordered to establish provost courts for the trial of all persons accused of crimes. The jurisdiction of these courts will extend over all offenses committed by inhabitants, except those meriting capital punishment and those over which the courts martial have jurisdiction. The provost courts cannot impose sentence of more than one year imprisonment at hard labor, and a fine of \$1,000. The procedure in these courts is the same as that of the summary court, and the sentences imposed do not require the approval of commanding officers.

ARGUMENTS COMPLETED.

Charleston, Dec. 28.—Arguments in the case of the nine railroad companies in North Carolina against the corporation commissioners of that state were concluded in the federal court today. Judge Simonton took the case under advisement.

SHERIFF'S SLAYER KILLED.

Jacksonville, Dec. 28.—News was just received here of the murder of Sheriff Simpkins, of Monticello, by a negro whom he was trying to arrest. The negro fled but was caught later and was shot by one of the sheriff's posse.

Colon, Dec. 28.—There was an important engagement in the department of Santander between the government troops and the revolutionists today. The censorship restrictions prevented cabling the issue of the battle.

For Favors 1899

You have our sincere thanks.

For 1900

Our best wishes.

2 ounce package.....3c
4 ounce package.....6c
While it lasts.

CLARENCE SAWYER
Successor to W. F. Sinder,
6 NORTH COURT SQUARE.

Church Street and Patton Avenue. ASHEVILLE, N. C.