

Asheville Daily Gazette.

VOL. IV: NO. 180,

ASHEVILLE, N. C., SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1899.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

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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.

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TREMENDOUS WASTE OF WATER

Due to Keeping Pipes Open to Prevent Freezing.

With today ends the second quarter of the fiscal year and tomorrow water rents for the third quarter are due. Consumers are allowed until the 22d to settle the water rents, and if not paid then the water will be cut off. Water Superintendent Rankin has collected practically all of last quarter's rents.

The cold weather has caused many pipes in the city to burst, and the water superintendent was called up by phone at least fifty times by persons who wanted him to send a man to repair their pipes. They seemed to think that it is the city's business to keep water pipes in repair, but the city's responsibility ends where the lines enter private grounds, and repairing inside must be done at the owner's expense. The plumbers are more than overworked, most of them working night and day with little or no rest. They have orders far in advance, and are getting around as rapidly as possible. The water department cuts off water from houses where there are breaks until the plumbers have them repaired, and Plumbing Inspector Guisard and his assistants were kept busy all day yesterday cutting off water.

A great many people leave their water running to keep the pipes from freezing, and a tremendous waste of water results. About a million gallons was wasted Friday night. At 10 o'clock Friday night there were fifteen feet of water in the reservoir and twenty-one in the standpipe, and yesterday morning there were five feet in the reservoir and ten in the standpipe. Ordinarily the amount used in that time is not appreciable.

The power pumps at the pumping station are frozen up and the two big steam pumps ran all day yesterday and all last night and gained very little on the supply.

All this freezing in water pipes is the fault of the plumbing which should have been done so the water would all drain out when it is cut off, but in many houses it remains in the pipes, freezes and bursts them.

ANXIOUSLY AWAITING

Buller's Expected Second Attempt to Cross Tugela River.

Boers Have Greatly Strengthened Their Position.

Gatacre Now Commands Some Thirty Miles of Country.

109 British Killed in a Christmas Sortie From Mafeking.

THE OVERDUE MAJESTIC ARRIVES AT CAPE TOWN—BOERS PERMIT AN AMERICAN OFFICER TO ACCOMPANY THEIR ARMY—WARNING THAT BRITISH VESSELS CANNOT BE ASSURED OF SAFETY IN DELAGOA BAY.

London, Dec. 30.—Contrary to all expectations General Methuen seems resolved to remain entrenched at Modder River, where both the British and the Boers are daily strengthening their positions. This is contrary to all continental military opinions. General Buller's preparations, however, all point to a second attack soon.

Inasmuch as the Boers have greatly strengthened their position since the battle at Colenso, there is considerable anxiety felt regarding the result of another attempt. In the center General French continues the good work, while General Gatacre, by the seizure of Dordrecht has distinctly improved his position, both from a political and a military point of view. He now commands some thirty miles of country, in which he can prevent considerable dissatisfaction, and he is also enabled to watch Stormberg, which is the Boers' chief stronghold in Cape Colony from two sides.

CRITICISING THE WAR OFFICERS.

But with a prolonged lull in actual happenings on the scene of war, attention in England is chiefly directed to other points.

A certain portion of the press, which was foremost in urging war, tried, when disappointed, to distract attention from its own blunders by attacking the generals, but the public would have none of this. The attack has since been confined to the war office, and particularly Landsdowne, secretary of war, and Sir Michael Hicksbeach, chancellor of the exchequer. Doubtless when the war is over a strict account will be demanded for their shortcomings. To first win the war is still the leading idea of the public, and the volunteer movement is increasing in enthusiasm. Probably ten thousand yeomanry will be enlisted and India will also provide many much needed horses, so that within six weeks there will probably be enough mounted men in South Africa to do really efficient work, though it is unsatisfactory to think that the horse sickness season is due within a month.

WATCHING NEW ORLEANS.

New Orleans, Dec. 30.—Two members of the British secret service have arrived here for the purpose of looking into the reported enlistment of volunteers for the Boers as well as the shipment of provisions for the Transvaal.

DID WHITE MAKE A SORTIE?

Frere Camp, Dec. 31.—There is no confirmation of the report that General White made a successful sortie from Ladysmith on Friday. The Boers galloped in force toward Potgieters, wagons and guns following. It was evident that the Burgers suspected an attack.

THE SEIZURE OF AMERICAN FLOUR.

So strong is the one idea to first defeat the Boers that all questions arising out of the war are only of the slightest general interest. This applies also to the seizure of the American flour cargoes on the British ships bound for Delagoa bay. The government has not yet made the slightest declaration on this subject. While ev-

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ery one agrees to make food contraband would be diametrically opposed to the welfare of England in the long run, it is believed that when the prize courts handle the present cases it will be found that no new precedent is established.

Sir Charles Dilke in an interview, declares it is folly for England to make foodstuffs contraband of war. It is impossible, he declares, to prevent men from entering the Transvaal via Delagoa bay if they declare they are members of the Red Cross.

If it were considered necessary to prevent the influx of foreign recruits, official opinion is inclined to think that the debarkation of males destined for South Africa is preventable, inasmuch as they are likely to be commanded and thereby can be rightly considered as enemies to the British.

DELAGOA BAY.

A portion of the English strongly favor seizing Delagoa bay, but the weight of opinion, including members of the cabinet, realize that such a policy is impossible. The condition of affairs in Delagoa bay may be judged by the fact that the Portuguese authorities have formally warned the senior British naval officer there that he cannot guarantee the safety of the ships lying in the harbor. A second Maine crime is practically out of the question, still such a warning is in itself suggestive.

A MESSAGE FROM THE QUEEN.

London, Dec. 30.—The war office has received a message from the mayor of Kimberley, dated December 28, conveying on behalf of the inhabitants New Year's greetings to the queen. Her majesty replied as follows: "I am deeply touched by your loyal greetings. I watch with admiration your determined and gallant defense, though I regret the unavoidable loss of life incurred."

FIGHTING AT MAFEKING.

Lorenzo Marquez, Dec. 29 (Delayed).—Advises received here from Pretoria, under date of Wednesday, December 27, say that an official despatch from Mafeking announces that in a sortie which the British made December 25, attacking one of the Boer forts with cannon, Maxims and armored train so persistently that fighting raged up to the walls of the fort, the British lost 109 killed and wounded, while the Boers lost only two men killed and seven wounded.

The despatch adds that Captains Kirkwood and Grenfell were captured by Boer scouts near Colenso and are being sent to Pretoria.

Ten unloaded shells inscribed: "The season's greeting," have been fired at Ladysmith.

Ten South African medical students from Edinburgh arrived at Pretoria from Delagoa bay with five tons of medical stores.

A despatch from the Boer camp at Modder river dated Thursday, December 27, reports an artillery duel lasting an hour. December 27 the British reconnoitering party made a sortie but did not come within the Boer range. The British December 28 commenced a steady bombardment of the Boer position.

RENEWED ACTIVITY.

London, Dec. 30.—The reported sortie at Ladysmith resulting in the capture of the Boer position is not confirmed, and apparently is only a Kaffir story, as a Cieveley despatch dated Friday makes no mention of it. The same message shows renewed activity on the part of the British, apparently preparatory to some action. The Boer position eastward of the camp was thoroughly reconnoitered. December 28 without drawing the enemy. The native guns are engaged in daily practice and it is said on good authority that thirty or forty Boers were killed by the firing during two days.

A despatch from Durban predicts that Ladysmith will be relieved about January 7. While there is nothing to bear out the forecast, there is some disposition to believe Buller is preparing for another attempt to advance by attack on the Boer position on Inhlawe mountain.

Advices from Cape Town say there is great dissatisfaction regarding the action of the British insurance companies who are retarding volunteers by making policy holders pay a war risk while the agencies of the leading American companies allow perfect freedom for naval and military service.

The government has accepted 125 Ceylon volunteers, mostly planters, and has also accepted the offer of Indian princes to supply horses.

The non-arrival of the Majestic, due at Cape Town Thursday, is causing some surprise to the public who expected she would maintain her usual trans-Atlantic speed. Shipping circles, however, explain that this is due to conditions imposed by coaling en route, and the necessity of economizing her supply and of traversing the tropics, all of which combine heavily to discount her usual rate of speed. They say all trans-Atlantic liners will be similarly handicapped.

AMERICAN OFFICER TO ACCOMPANY BOER ARMY.

Washington, Dec. 30.—A telegram from the acting United States consul at Pretoria was received today by Secretary Hay saying that the Transvaal authorities have graciously consented to the request of the United States that an American army officer be allowed to accompany the Boers in the field. The war department will designate an officer without delay.

At the beginning of the South African war the United States requested permission from England to allow four army officers to accompany the British forces but England expressed a disinclination to provide for so many officers. As a result only one, Captain Slocum, who is with Buller, was sent.

TRY AN OIL STOVE.

We offer two of the best kinds—the best of two kinds—most oil stoves emit an odor, ours do not. We sold the same stoves last winter and heard nothing but good of them.

J. H. LAW.

FUNERAL SERVICES OVER GEN. LAWTON'S BODY

The Remains Placed on Board the Transport Thomas.

Manila, Dec. 30.—The funeral services over General Lawton's body occurred this morning. Thousands of natives in carriages crowded the approaches to Paco cemetery, where the body had been temporarily placed in a vault. Trumpeter Haberkam sounded taps after Chaplain Marrin had offered prayer in the chapel. General Otis was present. At 10 o'clock the coffin was carried to a caisson by members of Lawton's staff, and the march began shortly afterward. It led down to the Luneta, which was lined with troops. At the Andra monument the procession halted and the chaplain pronounced the benediction. Thence the march was resumed to Pasig river, where the coffin was placed in a launch and transferred to the transport Thomas, which will sail for San Francisco tonight. Generals Bates, Wheeler, Forsythe, Kobbe and Schwan participated in the march. Admiral Watson marched beside Wheeler.

McCoy and Maher FIGHT TOMORROW NIGHT

Men Well Matched as to Physical Condition.

New York, Dec. 30.—McCoy and Maher practically finished training today and will rest till Monday afternoon, when they enter the ring at Coney Island. According to reports of the condition of the men they will face each other on equal terms as far as health is concerned. McCoy looks and is in better spirits than for years. Both men have mapped out a certain course. McCoy told at lunch that he would keep away, but when opportunity offered and then put in a finishing blow. Mahers plan is to mix it up and rush things. McCoy showed confidence in himself by placing \$1,000 in the hands of a friend to bet that he will win. Maher has wagered \$1,500 on himself. He expects to knock McCoy out in six rounds.

The scenes about the sporting resorts were very animated today. There was heavy betting on Maher, and he was the favorite at 100 to 95.

MAHER'S WIFE DEAD.

Philadelphia, Dec. 30.—Pugilist Maher's wife died tonight. It is believed this will result in a postponement of the fight.

AN EPISCOPAL BISHOP IN ALABAMA RESIGNS

Charged With Giving Too Much Attention to Personal Pleasure.

Montgomery, Dec. 30.—Bishop Jackson, coadjutor of the Episcopal church in Alabama, has forwarded his resignation to Bishop Doane of Albany, N. Y. The church in Alabama has been disturbed for more than a year past by rumors of misconduct. He is charged with having more regard for his personal comfort and pleasure than for his religious and pretorate duties.

Public drunkenness is openly charged against Bishop Jackson, and at a meeting of Episcopal clergymen at Alabama his resignation is said to have been demanded some months ago. The bishop denied the allegations and declined to resign. At a meeting of the house of bishops, which was recently held here, and after a conference with Jackson, it is understood he agreed to resign to avoid further controversy.

GENERAL WOOD'S NEW CUBAN CABINET

The Men Stand High in the Opinion of Their Countrymen.

Havana, Dec. 30.—General Wood will announce the following cabinet tomorrow: Secretary of states, Diego Tamago; secretary of justice, Luis Estevez; secretary of instruction, Juan B. Hernandez; secretary of finance, Enrique Varona; secretary of public



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.

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Scientific Opticians, 45 Patton Ave.—Blair's Furniture Store. EXAMINATION FREE.

works, Jose R. Villalon; secretary of agriculture, Luis Rivera. All these men stand high in the opinion of Cubans, and their appointment will undoubtedly give satisfaction. The new officials will commence their duties January 2.

SCHOONERS IN COLLISION OFF CAPE HATTERAS

One Sinks and the Crew Rescued by the Other.

Charleston, Dec. 30.—The schooner Margaret Roper from New York, arrived today with Captain Lawrence and crew of eight men of the schooner Fannie Brown, which was lost off Cape Hatteras Tuesday night in a collision with the Roper. The Fannie Brown was hit amidship, filled rapidly and sank. The Fannie Brown was owned in Richmond and was bound from Charleston to Baltimore. The crew was rescued with great difficulty.

PROMINENT METHODIST PROTESTANT MINISTER DEAD

Agent of Maryland Tract Society—Pneumonia the Cause.

Baltimore, Dec. 30.—Rev. Dr. Murray, the agent of the Maryland Tract society, and one of the best known ministers in the Methodist Protestant church, died today of pneumonia.

In every general conference, almost without exception, he sat as a delegate from his conference from the time of his early ministry onward. His most enduring work was in the moulding of legislation the shaping of the ritual and the perfecting of the church's policy.

COLLISION ON A BRIDGE.

Accident in South Carolina That Cost Two Lives.

Columbia, S. C., Dec. 30.—A work train constructing a bridge over the South Tiger, where it is crossed by the Washington and Atlanta main line of the Southern road, was run into this afternoon by a freight. Two bridge builders were killed and four others badly injured.

TO CALL REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION

Greensboro, Dec. 30.—The republican state executive committee is called to meet in this city on Tuesday, when a time and place for the state convention will be determined.

OSTRICH RACE POSTPONED.

Austin, Dec. 30.—Colonel Bryan left this afternoon for Lincoln. He stated he would be absent a month and deliver addresses in a number of places in the north and east. Mrs. Bryan and children will remain in Austin until next April. The ostrich race with ex-Governor Hogg has been postponed until Bryan's return.

MOTTO BUTTONS SEIZED.

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—The customs officials of Toronto recently seized a consignment of motto buttons inscribed, "Victory to the Boers." A circular has been issued declaring all importations of this character seditious and therefore prohibited.

INSURANCE COMPANIES LEAVE.

Austin, Dec. 30.—It is stated that a number of prominent fire insurance companies will withdraw from Texas the first of the year on account of the new anti-trust law.

Grant's Digestive Cordial for Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Constipation. Price 50c at Grant's.

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

"ON THE SQUARE"

Agency "ROCKBROOK FARM" CREAMERY BUTTER.

Good Old VIRGINIA MIXTURE

Smoking Tobacco.

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

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AMENDMENT CAMPAIGN

Senator Pritchard Will Speak at Rockingham on January 16th.

Meeting Arranged by Republican Committee.

Pearson Will Probably Win in the House Contest.

The Gold Standard Finance Bill and the Senate.

LETTERS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY THAT INDICATE A CHANGE IN SENTIMENT ON THE MONEY QUESTION—DANCE IN HONOR OF MISS CONNALLY.

Gazette Bureau, Washington, Dec. 29.

An important step in the amendment campaign will be taken on January 16 when Senator Pritchard will deliver a speech at Rockingham, in Richmond county. Chairman A. E. Holton, of the republican state executive committee, is having arrangements made for the meeting and has made official announcement that it will occur.

The belief is so firmly established that Mr. Pearson will be seated that, according to a general report, Speaker Henderson has reserved a place for him on the foreign relations committee.

* * * * *

The Times of today said: "The younger members of society danced a merry measure last night. The two large parties of the evening were given by Mrs. J. L. M. Curry, in honor of her niece, Miss Connally, whose debut was a fashionable incident last week, and by Mrs. Thomas M. Gale, for her young daughter, Miss Olive Gale, whose coming out triumphs will add to the social history of some future season. The first occurred at Rauscher's, the guests representing all of the debutantes of this winter and last and a hundred or more of cavaliers of the capital, together with a number of students of the various colleges who are spending the holidays with classmates who reside in Washington. Miss Connally received her guests in an imported gown of sea green tissue jeweled with thousands of tiny emeralds that gave to its wearer an Undine effect that was beautiful and unique. Previous to the dance Mr. and Mrs. Curry entertained a company of young people at dinner, the guests being debutante friends of Miss Connally and young men from out of town. Among them were Mr. Heber Bishop and Mr. Richard Ely, both of New York."

With the reconvening of congress will come the beginning of the end of the money question. The new finance bill passed the house in a manner altogether gratifying to its promoters and there are prospects for smooth sailing in the higher body. The passage of the law means the passing of the silver question, all of which in turn means the passing of Bryan and his silver issue. Events of the last few weeks have shown Mr. Bryan the mistake he has made in regarding the slogan of 1896, 16 to 1, as still a phrase to conjure with. The minority in the house, in the first place, were not united in opposing the new finance bill even some of the opposition speeches being merely perfunctory. On the other hand the republicans were united both in and out of congress. A few weeks ago the republican national executive committee appointed a literary committee for the approaching campaign. From all sections of the country letters are being received by the committee which indicate a posi-

(Continued on Fifth Page.)

For Favors 1899

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For 1900

Our best wishes.

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