

# The News and Observer.

VOL. XLV. NO. 99.

RALEIGH, N. C., SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1898.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## LEADS ALL NORTH CAROLINA DAILIES IN NEWS AND CIRCULATION.

### DEATH OF ROMERO

#### Mexican Ambassador to the United States.

#### AN EMINENT STATESMAN

#### BEST KNOWN DIPLOMAT OF ALL IN WASHINGTON.

#### HE CAME HERE FIRST IN THE YEAR 1857

#### Has Held Positions of Trust and High Honor for His Country Here and at Home.

#### His Wife a Washington Lady.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30.—Senor Don Matias Romero, the Mexican Ambassador to the United States, died at the Embassy here at 4:10 o'clock this morning. On Wednesday an operation for appendicitis was performed upon the Ambassador, and although the operation was entirely successful the resulting shock proved greater than he could bear. Up to 1:30 o'clock this morning, however it was thought that he was in a fair way to recovery, but at that time a high fever set in, and he sank rapidly until his death.

The death of Mrs. Romero, which occurred sometime ago, was a great shock to the Ambassador and on his return from Mexico whither he had taken her remains for interment, his friends remarked that he was greatly broken and showed unmistakable signs of failing health. While in Mexico at that time Mr. Romero was stricken with fever and although he was soon able to return to the United States, he never fully regained his health.

Senor Romero probably was the best known member of the Diplomatic Corps in Washington and was for some time its Dean. When Great Britain raised her mission to an Embassy the rank placed Sir Julian Pannecote, the British Ambassador, at the head of the corps though a junior in years of service to Senor Romero, who was raised only recently from the rank of Minister to that of Ambassador.

A sketch prepared by the Bureau of American Republics and published in its bulletin for the month of December 1898, after revision by Senor Romero himself gives the subjoined biographical review of the dead Ambassador:

"Senor Romero is one of the most eminent statesmen, writers, and diplomats of Mexico. He was born in the city of Oaxaca, February 24th, 1837. He received his first education in his native place, and finished it at the capital of the republic, where he received his diploma as a lawyer. In 1855 he first entered the Foreign Office, although still pursuing his legal duties. In 1857 when President Comonfort made his coup d'etat, forcing President Juarez to leave the capital, Senor Romero accompanied him to Vera Cruz where he continued in the service of the Department of Foreign Relations. In 1857, he came to Washington as First Secretary of the Mexican Legation, and remained here in that capacity until August, 1860, when, in the absence of the minister, he became charge d'affaires. He returned to Mexico in 1863 to take part in the war against the French and was appointed colonel by the President. General Porfirio Diaz then appointed him chief of staff. Soon after that, President Juarez accredited him as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Washington. He remained at this post from October, 1863, until January, 1869, having rendered most important services to his country.

"On his return to Mexico, he was appointed Secretary of the Treasury, but was obliged, on account of ill health to give up that office in 1872. From 1877 to 1878 he was again Secretary of the Treasury. In 1880 he served as Postmaster General. In March, 1882, he came back to Washington as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, and has remained in that capacity ever since, with an interruption of only ten months, in 1892, when, for the third time, he was called to serve as Secretary of the Treasury. As representative of his country in the United States Senor Romero has shown himself a most efficient and able diplomat. His efforts have been most successful in strengthening the friendly ties between the two nations, and with this object in view he has written a great deal, his productions always receiving the highest encomiums from the press of the United States and other countries.

"Senor Romero was a member of the International American Conference and in that body served with great distinction, having been one of its two vice-presidents."

Senor Romero married a Washington woman many years ago, and their home on I Street off Franklin Park was a social centre and the scene each season of brilliant society functions. A large part of resident as well as official society always attended these affairs. Madame Romero died not long ago. She and her husband enjoyed the friendship and confidence of the leaders in national events immediately succeeding the war. The intimacy between Senor Romero and General Grant was especially close. He also was on intimate terms with President Lincoln and Secretary Seward. In 1808 when he returned to Mexico, he was sent by Secretary Seward as a mark of distinction in a United States

### BANQUET TO BRYAN

#### People's Champion Lunges at Imperialism.

#### HE RESPONDS TO A TOAST

#### BOAST OF OUR NATION. RIGHT MAKES MIGHT.

#### TROOPS LEAVE CHARLESTON.

#### Nearly Three Thousand Set Sail For Cuba.

Charleston, S. C., Dec. 30.—Nearly 3,000 United States troops sailed from Charleston to Cuba to-day. The transports Minnewaska and Manitoba went out on the morning tide, and the Ward Line steamer Saratoga went to sea later in the day. On the first named ship there were General Bates, his headquarters, the brigade hospital and the Sixth regiment of Ohio volunteers, bound for Cienfuegos; the Manitoba carried General Sanger, his headquarters and the Twelfth regiment of New York volunteers, while the human cargo of the Saratoga consisted of 450 of the First regular infantry. In addition to the troops each vessel carried an immense quantity of supplies, provisions, baggage, lumber, etc. The Saratoga goes to Havana, while the Manitoba takes General Sanger and his staff to Matanzas, of which city and district he will have military charge.

#### MATTERS IN DURHAM.

Durham, N. C., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—Fire about 1 o'clock this afternoon destroyed a dwelling house in Hayti, the southeastern suburb of Durham, belonging to W. D. Pegram, colored. The contents of the house were saved. The loss on the building will amount to about \$150. The fire was out of reach of the fire department.

Enjoyable Christmas exercises were held at the Presbyterian, the First Baptist and North Durham Methodist churches last night. The North Durham Mission Sunday school held their entertainment to-night.

Col. J. S. Carr is in receipt of a message from Secretary Alger, stating that two more members of the First North Carolina regiment, have been honorably discharged. They are Privates Willard Sherron, of Company D, and Frank Goss, of Company I. It is also learned that Private Jim King, of Company I, has been honorably discharged.

The Board of Aldermen has granted liquor license to the following parties for six months from January 1st: A. J. Ellis, L. W. Whitesell, Jesse Johnson, W. S. Vestal, J. G. Patterson, T. H. Scoggins, H. M. Coble, A. T. Fowler, Proctor & Co., Green Andrews, John Harris, William Mangum, Jr., and J. J. Laughlin, Jr. & Co.

Deputy Sheriff John F. Harward and Chas. E. Christian carried to Raleigh to-day Miss Nancy Pegram, who had lost her mind, and placed her in the asylum.

#### INCREASED STOCK DEALINGS.

New York, Dec. 30.—Transactions on the New York Stock Exchange for the year show a decided increase in all branches over those for several preceding years. The total number of listed stocks dealt in during the year, amount to 85,820,911 shares, unlisted stocks 27,649,472 shares. Sales of State and Railroad bonds amounted to \$847,654,000 (par value); unlisted bonds \$46,263,500, and government bonds, \$24,129,210.

In 1897 only 77,248,347 listed and unlisted shares were sold; in 1896, 54,490,043 shares; in 1895, 66,440,576 shares, and in 1894, the poorest year in many, 49,275,733 shares.

#### THINKS HE KNOWS MURDERER.

Detective Promises to Have Cornish's Would-be Murderer Within 42 Hours. New York, Dec. 30.—The World says: "Captain George McClusky, chief of the detective bureau, firmly believes that he has solved the mystery surrounding the attempt to kill Harry Cornish, physician, instructor of the Knickerbocker Athletic Club, by sending him poison through the mails. "At 9 o'clock last night Captain McClusky stated that he would have the culprit in custody within twelve hours. "The name of the suspected murderer is withheld from publication lest its announcement should defeat the ends of justice. "The man under surveillance was formerly a member of the Knickerbocker Athletic Club. He was at one time a man of high social and financial standing in this city. In later years, through evil habits and evil associates his descent was rapid."

#### PENALTY FOR MRS. BOTKIN.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 30.—The jury in the Botkin case has returned a verdict of murder in the first degree with penalty fixed at life imprisonment.

Messrs. Claude Dockery, of Rockingham, and Thomas Settle, of Greensboro, were here yesterday on business connected with Col. Oliver Dockery's contest for the seat of Mr. John D. Bellamy in the next Congress. Mr. Settle is one of Col. Dockery's attorneys.

### BANQUET TO BRYAN

#### People's Champion Lunges at Imperialism.

#### HE RESPONDS TO A TOAST

#### BOAST OF OUR NATION. RIGHT MAKES MIGHT.

#### SHALL WE REVERSE THIS SENTIMENT?

#### "Imperialism Finds its Inspiration in Dollars Not in Duty" The True Mission of Our Nation to Liberate those in Bondage.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 30.—A complimentary reception and banquet to Colonel W. J. Bryan was tendered tonight by the Nebraska Travelling Men's Bryan Club at the Lincoln Hotel. Invitations were sent to 250 admirers of Mr. Bryan, which were with few exceptions accepted. The only notable absentee was Congressman Bailey, of Texas, who was to have responded to the toast "Democracy," but who telegraphed from Washington his inability to be present. Mr. Bryan responded to the sentiment, "America's Mission; Let Not the Crimes of the East E'er Crimson Thy Name; be Freedom and Science and Virtue Thy Fame."

Mr. Bryan insisted that a colonial policy was wrong in principle and unwise and he predicted that it would prove unprofitable in practice. He said in part: "You have labored diligently to prevent foreign financiers from disregarding the rights of the American people, now you are called upon to use your influence to prevent the American people from disregarding the rights of others. Self-restraint is a difficult virtue to practice."

"It has been the boast of our nation that right makes might. Shall we abandon the motto of the republic and go back a century to the monarchical motto which asserts that might makes right?"

"Be not carried away by the excitement incident to war; it will soon subside. Our people will turn again to the paths of peace; justice will resume her reign."

"Be steadfast in the faith of the fathers. Your fight is for yourselves as well as for your country. In the words of the distinguished Georgian, Hill: "Who saves his country saves himself, and all things saved do bless him. Who lets his country die, lets all things die, dies himself ignominiously—and all things dying curse him."

"Imperialism finds its inspiration in dollars, not in duty. It is not our duty to burden our people with increased taxes in order to give a few speculators an opportunity for exploitation; it is not our duty to sacrifice the best blood of our nation in tropical jungles in an attempt to stifle the very sentiments which have given vitality to American institutions; it is not our duty to deny the people of the Philippines the rights for which our forefathers fought from Bunker Hill to Yorktown."

"Our nation has a mission, but it is to liberate those who are in bondage—not to place shackles upon those who are struggling to be free."

"We rejoice in the marvelous victory won by Dewey in Manila Bay; we would give to him a sacred place in history, and crown his memory with blessings. To us he is a hero; to the Philippines he can be a savior."

"Let him be known to posterity, not as the subjugator of an alien race, but as a Lord Olive, but as a Lafayette. The gratitude of a people is better than a jeweled sword."

A number of other speeches were made.

#### NOTHING HEARD FROM ILOILO.

Washington, Dec. 30.—A cablegram was received at the War Department to-day from General Otis in command at Manila, but to the disappointment of the officials he announced that he had not yet heard of the result of the landing of General Miller's forces at Iloilo.

Provision has been made by the Navy Department for the establishment of a mail service between Manila and Guam, our new naval station in the Pacific. Admiral Dewey has been instructed that after the Yosemite arrives at Manila he must send a mail to the Island of Guam at least once in every two months, using any vessel of the fleet available for the service.

#### TRIED TO CUT HER THROAT.

Charleston, S. C., December 30.—John Peters, of Company I, Third Connecticut regiment, stationed at Camp Marion, near Summerville, yesterday attempted to cut the throat of the wife of Parson Belamy, at Lincolnville, a negro village about five miles from the camp. She dodged and he cut her in the right cheek. He is supposed to be crazy. He was found preaching to an illiterate congregation near Camp Marion recently. He is now under treatment at the brigade hospital.

#### WEEKLY BANK CLEARINGS.

New York, Dec. 30.—The total bank clearings in the United States for the week were \$1,469,562,659; per cent increase, 18.7. Exclusive of New York, \$522,600,195; per cent increase, 17.5.

### ODOR OF A CORPSE

#### More Light Thrown on the Beef Scandal.

#### POISONOUS CHEMICALS

#### THESE WERE USED TO PRESERVE THE MEAT.

#### INVESTIGATION BY EXPERTS ASKED

#### Report of Surgeon Daly Made Public. For the Safety of his Patients he Had to Throw All the Beef on Board the Ship into the Sea.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The war investigation commission held a brief executive session today and at noon adjourned until Tuesday, January 3d. There was no important action at today's meeting, and the matter of recalling Commissary General Eagan, Major General Shafter and General Miles as a result of the agitation over the beef issued to the army in the war remains undetermined. A decision probably will be reached next Tuesday, when it is likely there will be a full attendance of the commission, absence over the holidays of a majority of the members resulting in making the past week's proceedings of an unimportant and routine character. The commission today made public a report, omitted in the statement given out yesterday, bearing on the beef controversy. It is from Major W. H. Daly, chief surgeon at army headquarters at Tampa, prior to the sailing of the Shafter expedition, and is as follows: "Washington, Sept. 21, 1898. "To the Assistant Adjutant General, Headquarters of the Army Washington, D. C. "Sir: I have the honor to report in the interests of the service that in the various inspections I made in the various camps and troop ships at Tampa, Jacksonville, Chickamauga and Porto Rico, I found the fresh beef to be apparently preserved with secret chemicals, which destroys its natural flavor, and which I also believe to be detrimental to the health of the troops. "While on duty at the headquarters of the army at Tampa, at the time of the embarkation of the Shafter expedition, Colonel Watson, the efficient chief commissary, showed me a quarter of beef, that had already as a test been sixty hours in the sun without being perceptibly tainted, so far as the sense of smell could detect. It is impossible to keep fresh beef so long untainted, in the sun in that climate without the use of deleterious preservatives, such as boric acid, salicylic acid, or nitrate of potash injected into it in quantities likely to be harmful to the health of the consumer. At Ponce, Porto Rico, much of the beef I examined arriving on the transports from the United States was also of the same character, being apparently preserved by injected chemicals to aid deficient cold storage. "Where efficient cold storage is impossible, transporting beef alive is the method that should receive the fullest consideration by the Government, as being safest for the health of the consumer. When detailed to take charge of the transport Panama for conveying convalescents to the United States I obtained two thousand pounds of fresh beef from the commissary at Ponce. It looked well, but had an odor similar to that of a dead human body after being injected with preservatives, and tasted like first cooked like decomposed boric acid, while after standing a day for further inspection it becomes so bitter, nauseous and unpalatable as to be quite impossible for use. I was therefore obliged, owing to its condition, and the just complaints of the sick about it, and the disgustingly sickening odor it emitted when being served, and for the safety of the patients, two hundred and fifty-five convalescent soldiers on board, to organize a board of survey, condemn and throw fifteen hundred pounds, all we had, overboard. Consequently the convalescents were entirely without much needed fresh beef, making the duty of bringing the men to the United States in an improved condition a serious matter. "In my inspection of the Fourth United States volunteer infantry at Jacksonville recently I observed the same odor and taste upon the fresh beef, but not so marked; and at the camp of the Sixth United States volunteer infantry at Chickamauga I also, at several inspections, observed it markedly. I there inspected a lot of beef just issued to that regiment and while it looked well, it was of a sickening odor like a human body dead of disease and injected with preservatives, and when cooked it was quite unpalatable; consequently it was likely to prove an efficient cause of ill-health. The men complained of its insipid and mawkish flavor that high seasoning could not conceal. "Believing that the commissary department had been imposed upon by the misdirected commercial spirit of persons furnishing fresh beef, I respectfully recommended that the matter be investigated by experts, making a quantitative and qualitative chemical analysis of the several preservatives suspected to be used by getting samples of the beef furnished for export to Cuba and Porto Rico. "If the question arises that a report should have been made by me earlier, I beg to say that I have endeavored with all my opportunities to first inform myself by observation of the conditions above noted sufficiently to warrant my drawing the attention of the Adjutant

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### JUBANS YIELD

#### They Will Postpone the Great Celebration.

#### PEOPLE MUCH EXCITED

#### PATRIOTIC LEAGUE THINKS IT CAN QUIET THEM.

#### SECOND ILLINOIS REGIMENT MUTINOUS

#### Assignment of General Lee. In Command of Province of Havana. Two Military Departments Created. Ludlow to Hold Havana.

Havana, Dec. 30.—The Cuban patriotic committee, consisting of 150 leading Cubans, doctors and business men, at a meeting which lasted until 4 o'clock this morning, decided to yield without reservation to the wishes of General Brooke and General Ludlow in the matter of postponing the six days celebration and has approved a manifesto to the Cuban population of Havana, on the lines of General Ludlow's reply on the subject of the proposed celebrations, quoting some portions of it and paraphrasing others. The Cuban citizens of Havana and the Cuban soldiers outside the city are intensely excited, but the patriotic committee and the military chiefs of the Cubans think they can quiet this feeling and prevent violent incidents.

#### TROOPS WERE MUTINOUS.

#### Second Illinois Made Bad Record on its Way to Cuba.

Savannah, G., Dec. 30.—Captain Chas. T. Barker, assistant quartermaster in charge of the transport Michigan, which arrived here to-day, sent to Washington to-night an official report in which the Second Illinois regiment which the Michigan carried to Cuba on her last trip, was charged with mutinous conduct, and it was stated that Colonel Hotchkiss, in command of the regiment, had to be threatened with a report to the commanding major general. It is intimated in the report that an investigation and possibly a court martial will be demanded.

Previous to the sailing of the Michigan it had been reported that the ship was in bad condition. This Captain Barker denies. He asserts that she was in good shape and in support of this, he transmits a letter to that effect from a number of well known army officers, including Major Richard Henry Savage (the novelist) of the second engineers.

Captain Barker says: "The two battalions came aboard eight hours before we left port. During that time the wildest confusion prevailed. No one assumed to be in command. "Shouting, yelling, hurrahing and disorder generally continued throughout the entire time the animals were being loaded. There were a number of accidents and it is only a wonder that several of the horses were not thrown from the gangway and killed. The regulations provide that no smoking be permitted between decks and no soldiers be permitted in the life boats. These regulations were not complied with and no effort made to enforce them. "On the first inspection," says Captain Barker, "we found fifteen or more of the men smoking between decks."

The captain in command of the transport complained of the action of the soldiers to the quartermaster and he notified Colonel Hotchkiss that the soldiers must quit their mutinous conduct or a report would be made to the major general commanding.

"The vandals who are practicing," wrote Captain Barker to Colonel Hotchkiss at the instance of the captain of the ship, "seriously endangers the safety of the vessel." It transpired that the Michigan was without adequate fire apparatus. Had a conflagration at sea occurred from the smoking between decks, the consequences would probably have been serious.

Notwithstanding his remonstrance to the colonel commanding, the mutinous conduct of the men continued. Captain Barker's reports says: "With a thorough knowledge of their dangers, the men of the Second Illinois refused to obey every order issued against smoking between decks. In the troops' quarters the choice lamps were smashed to afford the men amusement. This vandalism was practiced to such an extent that the chief engineer found that it was impossible to supply the necessary light. Life preservers were torn down and scattered throughout the ship. One night about 8 o'clock the men on the bridge were ruthlessly hauled from his watch by soldiers. The chief officer went forward and by main force compelled the soldiers to disperse. There was no such thing as keeping the men from the hatchways until one fell and came near being killed."

#### MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.

#### Formation of Two Places Ludlow in Command at Havana.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The War Department to-night issued an order establishing two departments in and about Havana, viz.: The Department of Havana, comprising the city proper, su-

(Continued on Second Page.)