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RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 28, 1899.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

LEADS ALL NORTH CAROLINA DAILIES IN NEWS AND CIRCULATION.

ENTRENCHING AT MODDER RIVER

The Boers Confront Methuen in Increasing Number.

BRITISH RECONNOITRE

DRAWING THE FIRE OF SEVERAL BOER GUNS.

THE BRITISH QUEEN WARNS HER SUBJECTS

Proclamation Gazetted Forbidding Them Giving Assistance in Any Way to the Transvaal Under the Penalty of the Law.

London, Dec. 27.—The War Office here has received the following dispatch from Cape Town dated Tuesday, December 26th:

"There is no change in the situation. Methuen reports that the enemy's force has increased and is engaged in entrenching three and a half miles from his outlying pickets.

"Methuen reconnoitred with two squadrons of mounted infantry for two miles along the line and drew the fire of four guns and two Vickers' machine guns. Four horses were hit.

"The Queen's Christmas message was received with enthusiasm.

"Gatacre is endeavoring to re-open communication with the Indwe collieries."

CHURCHILL GOES TO DURBAN.

London, Dec. 27.—Mr. Winston Churchill arrived here late last night and left for Durban by the steamer Induna.

ROBERTS AND KITCHENER.

Gibraltar, Dec. 27.—The British steamer Dumottar Castle, having on board General Lord Roberts, of Kanakhar, commander-in-chief of the British forces in South Africa, arrived here yesterday evening.

General Sir H. Kitchener, who came from Egypt to join General Roberts as his chief of staff, embarked on board the Dumottar Castle and the vessel sailed early this morning for Cape Town.

BRITISH SUBJECTS WARNED.

London, Dec. 27.—The Privy Council held a meeting at Windsor Castle today, at which Queen Victoria proclaimed a warning to all British subjects not to assist the inhabitants of the Transvaal or Orange Free State or to sell or transport merchandise thereto, under penalty of the law. The proclamation was gazetted tonight.

A RED HOT CHRISTMAS DAY.

Chieveley Camp, Natal, Dec. 25.—Although the two armies were in sight of each other with the temperature 102 degrees in the shade, the British today enjoyed characteristic Christmas cheer.

Glendef and Kirkwood, of the South African Light Horse, left here yesterday to inspect the patrols along the eastern hills. Their horses returned at night alone.

Colonel Donald, of the Royal Fusiliers, had his collar bone broken by being thrown from his horse while on outpost duty.

The naval guns began shelling the Boer position at five o'clock this morning, using lyddite. The shelling continued about two hours.

Ever since the engagement at Colenso the enemy have been energetically improving their entrenchments. They can be seen galloping freely from hill to hill.

Ladysmith also had a busy morning today, shelling the Boer position on Umbulwana Mountain. The business activity on Umbulwana Mountain. The bursting shells were plainly visible at Chieveley.

ORDERED TO SOUTH AFRICA.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 27.—A telegram received from England today by the military authorities here orders the Leinster regiment, known as the Royal Canadians, now doing duty on this station to sail on January 10th for duty in South Africa.

RHODESIAN RELIEF FORCE.

London, Dec. 27.—The Rhodesian Mafeking relief force, according to a dispatch from Mochudi, Bechuanaland, dated Saturday, December 16th, was progressing slowly owing to the necessity of repairing the bridges, averaging one per mile.

An intercepted Boer mail bag, it is added, shows that twenty Boers were killed and many wounded during the British attack on the Sekani laager.

Dispatches from Modder River represent Dutch disaffection in Griqualand West as growing very serious. In some towns the entire Dutch population joined the Boers.

It is announced that the Boers have raised the siege of Kuruman and have all withdrawn to Magersfontein.

The Cape Town correspondent of the Times, under date of Friday, December 22nd, says: "Anxiety regarding the attitude of the Colonial Dutch is steadily growing. They make no effort to conceal their sympathy with the two republics; and the only question now is whether if the military situation is not changed they will keep from open rebellion."

A FEW SHOTS EXCHANGED.

Kimberley, Dec. 23.—Wednesday.—At 2:30 this morning detachments under Colonel Peakman, with three Maxims

and three seven-pounders under Major May, reconnoitred. Leaving the entrenchments, the British advanced on Toll Pan. The Boer pickets fired and our Maxims replied, the Boers disappearing over the ridge.

Our guns then began to shell Toll Pan at a range of 2,500 yards. A Boer gun dropped four shells near our men, but did no damage. As the Boers were strongly entrenched we withdrew. Their guns are well placed.

CONFIDENCE IN BULLER.

London, Dec. 28.—(Thurs.)—The Morning Post has received the following from Mr. Churchill, under date of December 26th, telegraphed from Chieveley Camp, where he has arrived:

"All ranks have complete confidence in Sir Redvers Buller, and there is a stern determination to succeed next time at all costs. A painful impression was caused by the announcement of the change of commander-in-chief and the soldiers here are resolved to vindicate their trusted leader.

"The situation, nevertheless, is difficult. The Boer position being one of extraordinary strength with high hills lined tier on tier with trenches and galleries, rising from an almost unfordable river, and with a smooth plain in front.

"The enemy have all the ranges marked, and many powerful guns dominate the various points of the river, while the drifts are commanded by converging musketry fire from probably 12,000 Boers. There are 16 miles of wild, broken country before reaching Ladysmith, which demands early relief."

SOUTH IN THE LEAD

And North Carolina is Leading the South.

Of the 183 Textile Mills Constructed or Contemplated in the Last Six Months, This State Shows Thirty-One.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 27.—The number of textile mills constructed or contemplated in the United States for the last half in 1899, as reviewed by the American Wood and Cotton Reporter, is 183 against 116 for the first half of the year. This makes a total of 299 mills for the year against 262 for 1898 and 155 for 1897.

The South still leads in the new mill construction with a gain of 14 mills over the number for the first half of the year. The North has shown a greater increase, having an accession of 50 over the twenty-five reported the first six months in the year.

North Carolina, as usual, leads the list with a total of 31. Georgia comes second with a total of 21. Pennsylvania shows 19; South Carolina 16; Alabama, 16; Massachusetts, 13; New York, 9; Rhode Island, 8; Maine, 8; Mississippi, Tennessee and Virginia, 6 each; Texas, 5; Connecticut, Louisiana and New Jersey 3 each; Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota and Vermont one each.

ARRESTED FOR ARSON.

Is Stoy Responsible For the Augusta Fires?

Augusta, Ga., Dec. 27.—W. C. Stoy was arrested late last night on a warrant sworn out by Chief of Police Hood, charging him with arson.

Stoy is an excursion manager. The three disastrous fires in this city recently, their origins pointing strongly to incendiarism, have greatly excited the people. Recently a building was fired three times in one day in the lower part of the city, and last night shortly before the big fire, the department was called to a residence on Walton Way to a fire plainly incendiary, which was also a second attempt on that building.

Maine's Dead in Washington.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The remains of 151 sailors killed at the time the Maine was destroyed arrived here this morning on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad in a special train of six cars. They were escorted by a guard of honor composed of twelve men from the battleship Texas, including among them one of the members of the original Maine crew, Terry Shea. The remains were conveyed to Rosslyn, Va., opposite the district line, and there were transferred to wagons belonging to the Quartermaster's Department which removed them to the burial site in Arlington cemetery. The caskets have been placed in open hospital tents, and the guard of honor will be maintained over them, until they are buried tomorrow.

The body of Frederic C. Holzer, an ordinary seaman, is the only one which will not be buried at Arlington cemetery tomorrow. The body of Holzer has been shipped to New York where it will be received by his relatives. About thirty requests were received by the Navy Department for the bodies of the victims of the Maine disaster, but in only ten of these cases had the bodies been identified. The other twenty were either in the list of unidentified dead or among the bodies not recovered. Owing to the confusion in which the graves were found when the dead were disinterred at Havana the Department has reluctantly decided not to extend to the relatives and friends of the other nine positively identified bodies the privilege of burying the remains at home.

Of the 150 bodies which are to be buried at Arlington tomorrow, 63 were identified at the time of their interment in Colon cemetery. Ninety-seven of the bodies to be interred tomorrow were never identified.

HE WILL NOT LEAVE THEM IN THE LURCH

Simonton Will Stand by the Railroads.

THEY MUST NOT BE TAXED

REHEARING OF THE TAX CASE AT CHARLESTON.

NO REVERSAL OF OPINION EXPECTED

Argument Began Yesterday and Will Probably be Concluded Today. Mr. Simmons Will Conclude the Argument for the Defendants.

Charleston, N. C., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—The re-argument in the action of the various railroad companies against the North Carolina Corporation Commission as ordered by Circuit Judge Simonton commenced this morning.

The railroad companies are represented by Judge Johnson, of Philadelphia, who represents all the railroads party to the suit; Capt. Charles Price, of Salisbury, who specially represents the Southern Railway; Mr. George Rountree, of Wilmington; and Mr. Robert O. Burton, of Raleigh, representing the Atlantic Coast Line; and Maj. John D. Shaw, of Rockingham, who appears for the Seaboard Air Line.

The defendants are represented by Judge Henry G. Connor, of Wilson; Mr. F. M. Simmons, J. C. L. Harris and John W. Hinsdale, of Raleigh.

The ground for the re-argument is the recent decision of the Supreme Court of North Carolina in the Abbott-Beddingfield case. In the former argument at Asheville, N. C., Judge Simonton held that the Corporation Commission had no power to assess railroad property for taxation. The North Carolina court decided that the Commission did have this power. The defendants contend that Judge Simonton should reverse himself and hold the law as the Supreme Court has held it.

The argument was opened by Judge Connor in a very clear statement of the contentions of the defendants. He was followed by Judge Johnson in a very able and elaborate speech for the plaintiffs. Mr. Harris followed Judge Johnson in a very lucid exposition of the Abbott-Beddingfield decision and cited authorities to show that Judge Simonton must follow the law of that case.

Capt. Price then made a short argument for the plaintiffs, as the ground had been so well covered by Judge Johnson.

Col. Hinsdale then commenced his argument for the defendants and before he concluded the court, at 2 p. m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a. m.

Messrs. Rountree and Burton will speak tomorrow for the plaintiffs and Mr. Simmons will conclude for the defendants.

Judge Simonton has said that he has the contentions well in his mind and the argument tomorrow will probably not be lengthy and exhaustive. It is the impression here that Judge Simonton will adhere to his former decision.

TAX REDUCED \$10,000,000.

Charleston, S. C., Dec. 27.—Before Judge Simonton in the United States Circuit Court today is being argued the case of the railroads against the North Carolina State Corporation Commission. Judge Simonton recently reduced the Corporation Commission's assessment of railroad tax values by ten million. The commission now claims it has the right to fix such values and argues that the Federal court must accept the State's construction of its own laws.

MENACED BY CLAN-NA-GAEL.

One of Its Officers Talks of Projected Invasion of Canada.

New York, Dec. 27.—Relative to the attitude of the Irish revolutionary societies toward the Government of Great Britain at the present juncture of affairs, the Evening Post today quotes an officer of the Clan-Na-Gael as saying:

"England can only be made to feel physical force, and we're now going to give her some Boer treatment. We don't intend going out and sinking that first expedition from Canada to South Africa, but thought it better to wait a little. We can mobilize our men without much difficulty for an attack on Canada and we are fairly well armed—as well as the United States troops in the Spanish War. We have lots of Springfield rifles and are handy with the bayonet.

"No decision has been arrived at yet. Everything will depend on the immediate future. We have either regiments or companies all over the United States and are fairly well drilled, and a great many of our men are in the militia. The Ancient Order of Hibernians has really nothing to do with it. It numbers about 250,000 and a majority of its members belong to our organization. All its officers do, and so of course it will act with us. We have lots of men in the regular army—camps or club in every post—and even if they were sent against us to stop us on the border they would either march across with us or give us blank cartridges.

"If it is decided to attack Canada we shall do all in our power to keep matters so secret as not to embarrass the Government until we are actually on the border. The French population in Canada would be with us, and there are numbers of our own countrymen ready to welcome us. Canada would be an easy mark. We would have the Canadian Loyalists on the run in a week."

Civil Marriages For the Philippines.

Washington, Dec. 27.—General Otis has issued a decree authorizing the celebration of civil marriages in the Philippines. He called Secretary Root to that effect today and the Secretary promptly approved the action. Heretofore all marriages were celebrated by the Catholic Church, so that Protestants and non-Christians were prohibited from marrying. The decree does not interfere with the Catholics who may be married according to their own rites, but extends the privilege of civil marriage to those who desire it just as is practiced in the United States.

Killed on a Trestle.

Anderson, S. C., Dec. 27.—While James Jones, his wife, two children, and brother-in-law were walking on a high trestle near here last night, a train suddenly came upon them. Mrs. Jones was killed, her body being horribly mangled. Mr. Jones with one of the children, jumped headlong into the swamp below, and the other child fell through the trestle. All were badly injured, but it is thought they will recover.

WHITES UNDER ARMS

Desperate Negroes Threaten Fort White With Fire.

Infuriated Because of the Killing by the Town

Marshal of Tom White, a Negro Who Resisted Arrest.

Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 27.—There is much excitement at Fort White, a town thirty miles from here over the threats of the negro portion of the population to burn the town. The negroes are excited because of the killing of Tom White, who resisted arrest by the town marshal.

The marshal acted in self defense, and the shooting is regarded as justifiable.

GEN. CARPENTER RETIRED.

Vacancy Left by Lawton's Death Will be Filled Next Week.

Washington, Dec. 27.—General Gilbert S. Carpenter who was recently confirmed as brigadier general in the regular army, has been placed on the retired list on his own application, after 30 years' active service. His retirement leaves two vacancies in the list of brigadier generals, and results in promotions in every grade of the line. The two vacancies in the list of brigadier generals will be filled on the re-assembling of Congress, by the promotion and retirement of several officers who have distinguished themselves in action in the recent war. It is popularly supposed that Generals MacArthur, Wilson, Lee, Wheeler, Bates, Young, Ludlow and Wheaton, all of whom hold volunteer commissions, are to be made brigadier generals in the regular establishment and that all but two of the number will be immediately retired. General MacArthur will undoubtedly be retained in active service, but there is less certainty as to the identity of the other general officer to be retained. The death of General Lawton left a vacancy in the list of Major Generals of volunteers, which will be filled by the promotion of either General Bates, General Young or General Wheaton, all of whom are on duty in the Philippines. The appointment will be made early next week.

RACE RIOT AT RIDGELAND.

Two Negroes and a White Man Killed.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 27.—A Constitution special from Columbia, S. C., says: "News has reached here of a race riot at Ridgeland, Buford county, in which two negroes and a white man were killed and several others wounded. Ridgeland is a small town on the coast, thickly populated by negroes."

Beveridge on the Quay Case.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 27.—Senator Beveridge today made the following statement concerning Senator Quay:

"The talk about Quay not having votes enough to seat him is nonsense, so are the claims that he has enough what the situation is: Nobody knows what the situation is. Nobody knows, for example, how I shall vote. I know that a great many other Senators are in exactly the same situation. The whole matter is a pure question of constitutional construction. All this talk about corrupt elections, has nothing to do with the case. Quay is not claiming through an election. He is claiming through an appointment by the Governor. The question is whether or not the Governor had a constitutional right to appoint him. I have not had time yet to give that question the special study which its immense importance deserves. When I have done so, I shall know how I shall vote, for that consideration and that consideration alone will determine the matter. This also is the case with a great number of other Senators."

DANFORTH TALKS OF THE CAMPAIGN

Bryan Will Head the Ticket of Course.

SILVER'S LOST GROUND

TRUSTS AND IMPERIALISM FILL THE HORIZON.

THINKS ALL DEMOCRATS CAN UNITE NOW

Chicago Will Hardly Get the National Convention, Which Mr. Danforth Thinks Will Meet Either at Kansas City or Milwaukee.

New York, Dec. 27.—Elliott Danforth, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee, returned to New York today after a trip through the South during which he talked with Senator James K. Jones, Chairman of the National Committee, and most of the chairmen of the Southern Democratic State committees. This afternoon Mr. Danforth gave an Evening Post reporter the result of his observations and some information about next year's national campaign.

"I found," he said, "that the sentiment was generally in favor of selecting some Western city other than Chicago as the place for holding the National Convention. The members of the National Committee have a strong feeling against Chicago on account of the treatment they have received from the newspapers there since they established headquarters in the city in 1896. It looks now as if either Milwaukee or Kansas City will secure the National Convention. Milwaukee seems to be in the lead.

"I also discovered that there is a general feeling in favor of establishing the headquarters of the National Committee in Washington. Senator Jones favored the sentiment of Democracy in the South is such that I am confident there will be little trouble in bringing about a union of particular interest in New York, namely that some of the leaders seemed disposed to insist on free silver as the main issue of the campaign next year. They did not say that they had abandoned the 16 to 1 idea, but they acknowledge that the situation had changed since 1896, and that the dominant issues next year will be trusts and imperialism. That is to say, they are unwilling to repudiate the Chicago platform, but they see that new issues of far-reaching importance have come up lately and that they should be recognized. Even in States like North Carolina I found that the anti-trust and anti-imperialism ideas engaged the attention of the people more than the free silver issues. In fact, I might sum up my observations by saying that the sentiment of Democracy in the South is such that I am confident there will be little trouble in bringing about a union of the Democracy of the whole country next year.

"The Democratic National Convention," said Mr. Danforth, "will be held a short time after the Republican Convention, according to custom. No matter when it is held there is no doubt about the head of the ticket. Everywhere I heard only Mr. Bryan's name mentioned. They are not talking about candidates for Vice President yet. An Eastern man will probably be selected."

LOCKETT ROUTS THE ENEMY.

Puts to Flight Filipinos Entrenched Near Manila.

Manila, Dec. 27.—10:15 p. m.—Colonel Lockett, with a force of 2,500, including artillery, this morning attacked a strong force of insurgents entrenched in the mountains near Mantaban, about five miles northeast of San Mateo. The enemy was completely routed, the Americans pursuing them through the hills, and which they fled in every direction. Four Americans were wounded. The Filipino loss was large, resulting from a heavy infantry and artillery fire for three hours into the trenches.

It is supposed that the insurgents were those driven out of San Mateo on the day General Lawton was killed. They numbered probably a thousand.

A dozen lines of insurgent trenches covered the steep trail through the hills and likewise the valley below, along which the Americans passed. The main attacking party consisted of the Forty-sixth volunteer infantry, a troop of cavalry and artillery. Colonel Lockett commanding in person. The rest of the command operated from remote points in an endeavor to carry out Colonel Lockett's plan of throwing his line around the enemy and thus cutting off retreat.

The nature of the mountainous country made it impracticable to execute this movement successfully.

After the insurgents began to run there was a vain attempt to use artillery.

10:50 p. m.—It now appears that one American was killed in the attack upon the San Jacinto garrison yesterday by General Anta Ana.

A CRUSHING DEFEAT.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Mail advices have reached the War Department in regard to the crushing defeat administered by Wheaton's brigade to the insurgents near San Jacinto, early in November in which engagement Major

John A. Logan, Jr., lost his life. According to the correspondent of the Manila American, the Thirty-third infantry, under Major Mare, encountered a force of the enemy between San Fabian and San Jacinto. The result of the sharp fighting was such that the insurgent force was routed. It was the first fight since the beginning of the insurrection.

To be routed for two hours, and at 11 o'clock 77 dead Filipinos were found in the trenches. Many wounded were hidden in the high grass and creek bottoms. It is estimated that over 100 insurgents were killed in the fight, from 20 to 30 being found dead together in several places. Twenty-nine prisoners and 100 rifles were captured.

The Americans lost one officer killed and six men wounded.

The officer killed was Major John A. Logan, Jr., who was shot through the head during the first few minutes of the engagement, while at the head of his battalion which formed an advance guard. He was in the act of assisting a wounded soldier and was hit by a Manser bullet, fired by a sharpshooter concealed in the top of a cocoanut tree. He died a few hours later.

Coffee From the Plague Ship.

New York, Dec. 27.—President Murphy, of the Board of Health, at the meeting of the board today, decided that the coffee which arrived on the biononic infected vessel, J. W. Taylor, should be permitted to land. He decided that the coffee should be roasted in Brooklyn.

DUEL IN THE STREET

Two Men Dead and a Third May Die.

Jesse Harden Cuts His Uncle's Throat From

Ear to Ear. Cause of Affray Unknown. The Parties Prominent.

Huntsville, Ala., Dec. 27.—In a street duel at Deposit today two men were killed and a third probably fatally wounded.

James Harden's throat was cut from ear to ear by his nephew Jesse Harden. The former is dead, John C. Harden, a brother of the dead man, was seriously injured by Jesse Harden, and as the fight was drawing to a close, Mac Russell discharged a load of buckshot into the abdomen of Jesse Harden, causing death. All the parties are well known and prominent in politics. The cause of the fight is not known.

THE "SHADOWING" OF JURORS.

Recorder Goff Protests Against it in the Molineux Trial.

New York, Dec. 27.—Two things of interest, if not of importance, were developed at the trial of Roland B. Molineux today. The first incident was the protest made by Recorder Goff against the policy of "shadowing" adopted by the District Attorney. The jurors claimed that a detective has been assigned to each member, and that the "shadow" had allowed their zeal to outrun their discretion.

Assistant District Attorney McIntyre in explaining the action of the District Attorney's office said that fifteen detectives had been selected to watch the members of the jury. He said that it was the custom to employ men to "shadow" jurors during an important murder case.

It is understood, however, that orders will be issued to "shadow" to give the jurors as little trouble as possible in the future.

The other incident of interest occurred during the cross-examination of Handwriting Expert Ames, of San Francisco, who is the author of a book on "Biblical Myths."

Assistant District Attorney Osborne objected to this line of examination, and the Recorder ruled that the law allowed no religious test of a witness.

The day was largely devoted to technical examination of Handwriting Experts Ames and Tyrell. Nothing new of importance was developed.

TORPEDO BOAT STOCKTON.

A Sister Boat to the Shubrick Launched at Richmond.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 27.—Despite the fact that it was snowing heavily, a large crowd assembled at the Trig shipyard here this afternoon to witness the launching of the torpedo boat Stockton. The Stockton is a sister boat to the Shubrick which was launched at the Trig yard some weeks ago. Miss Katherine Stockton, the oldest unmarried daughter of the oldest son of Commodore Stockton, christened the boat, and the affair went off without the slightest hitch. The Stockton is 175 feet long, of 17 feet beam and 4 feet 8 inches draft, and is expected to make on her trial trip 25 knots.

BOUGHT BY THE DUKES.

Ninety-Four Thousand Acres of Land in Lake County, Fla.

Leesburg, Fla., Dec. 27.—Ninety four thousand acres of land have been recently purchased in Lake county, this State, by the Dukes of North Carolina. They expect to cut off and utilize the timber, plant the land in tobacco and eventually run a railroad across the country to connect with the Florida East Coast Railway.