

The News and Observer.

LEADS ALL NORTH CAROLINA DAILIES IN NEWS AND CIRCULATION.

DEBATE ON THE FINANCIAL BILL

Begins in the Senate at Two This Afternoon.

RESOLUTION BY SULZER

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT'S DEALINGS WITH BANKS.

LIGHT ON THIS MATTER IS DESIRED

Senator Allen Has Introduced a Similar Resolution in the Senate. A Resolution by Senator Butler Providing For an Income Tax.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The Senate evinced no disposition today to take up the work of the session in earnest, and while the sitting was of only a little more than an hour's duration, a large number of important bills were introduced and a definite foundation laid for proceeding with the Financial Bill. The hour for the beginning of the debate on this measure was fixed for 2 o'clock tomorrow. The most notable event of the day was an objection entered by Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts to the summary disposition of resolutions asking for information about the conduct of the Philippine war. He indicated a purpose to demand consideration for such measures even at the expense of the Financial Bill. The tenth instant was named as the day for the delivery of eulogies in honor of the memory of the late Vice-President Hobart.

Mr. Allen presented a resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for all letters passing between the Treasury Department and the National City Bank and the Hanover National Bank of New York and also all agreements made between the Treasury Department and those banks concerning the deposit of funds, etc.

Mr. Aldrich objected to present consideration and the resolution went over until tomorrow.

A like disposition was made of a resolution offered by Mr. Pettigrew calling upon the Secretary of War for information as to whether General Torres of the Philippine army came under a flag of truce as a representative of Aguinaldo to General Otis after the beginning of hostilities last February, making an explanation of the outbreak and suggesting means of terminating the troubles.

After an executive session the Senate at 1:10 p. m. adjourned.

HOUSE MEETS AND ADJOURNS.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The House was in session but fifteen minutes today and during that time had a little flurry over an attempt by Mr. Sulzer, of New York, to secure consideration for a resolution asking information concerning the relations of the Treasury Department with the National City Bank of New York. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Gaines, of Tennessee, rose to a question of personal privilege respecting his vote on the Roberts resolution. These events and the prayer of the chaplain occupied the brief time the House was in session.

Cotton Brought Into Sight.

New Orleans, La., Jan. 3.—Secretary Hester of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange, issued today a statement that shows that the amount of cotton brought into sight for the four months from September to the close of December has been 5,591,076 bales against 7,725,549 last year and 7,296,533 bales year before last.

Foreign exports for the first four months of the season have been 2,568,435 bales, showing a decrease under last season of 1,616,194 bales.

Stocks at the seaboard and the twenty-nine leading Southern interior markets at the close of December were 1,898,939 bales against 2,052,361 bales the same date last year.

Conference With Mr. Bryan.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 3.—Colonel William Jennings Bryan returned to Lincoln today after an absence of six weeks. He found a number of leading Democrats from other States awaiting him and conferred with them in an informal way. Mr. Bryan will remain in Lincoln until Saturday. He is interested in the meeting of the Fusion State Central Committee's Friday and is to respond to a toast Friday at the banquet of the Nebraska Traveling Men's Club. He will leave for New York early Saturday.

The Buena Ventura Labeled.

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 3.—The steamer Buena Ventura, which ran into and disabled the schooner Lockwood yesterday, was labeled today for \$4,200 by the latter's master, Captain John P. Martin, for injuries to his vessel sustained in the collision near Winter Quarter Lightship. After being injured the Lockwood was towed to this port by the steamer.

Six Hundred Lives Lost.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 3.—The latest reports from Achalkalek, in the Government of Tiflis, show that six hundred lives were lost during the earthquakes which visited that district on Monday.

FEAR FOR THE VICTORIA.

Did She Go Down in the Typhoon. The Manauense Rode Out.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 3.—A special to the Record from San Francisco, says: The big transport Victoria is now 78 days out of this port for Manila and shipping men are fearful that the vessel has gone to the bottom. It was spoken by the transport Tartar, on November 14th between this port and Honolulu with a broken shaft.

A few days later a terrible typhoon raged in the track of the Victoria, the same storm that nearly sent the Manauense to the bottom. Nothing has been heard of the transport since spoken by the Tartar. The Victoria was loaded with forage and supplies and carried a crew of 52 men.

Pres. Wilson Goes to Hot Springs.

Richmond, Jan. 3.—Hon. William L. Wilson, President of Washington and Lee University, will leave Lexington tomorrow for the Arizona Hot Springs, where he expects to remain until spring. He is threatened with lung trouble and Dr. Janeway, of New York, advised the step as a precautionary measure.

Bradley the Republican Candidate.

Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 3.—Ex-Governor W. O. Bradley will be the Republican nominee for Senator. Bradley is being supported by both Governor Taylor and Senator DeBoe.

THE BUBONIC PLAGUE

A Native in Manila With All the Symptoms.

The Case is in the Walled City Where Two Suspicious Deaths Have Occurred.

Manila, Jan. 3.—5:50 p. m.—The health officers have found a native with all the symptoms of bubonic plague, in a house in the walled city, where two suspicious deaths have occurred. The patient has been isolated and every precaution has been taken to prevent a spread of the disease.

FAVORABLE TO WHEAT.

The Plant Well Rooted and Growing Vigorously.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The climate and crop bulletins for December issued today says:

The weather conditions during the month of December have been generally favorable for winter wheat, reports from a majority of States indicating that the plant is well rooted, has made a vigorous growth and is in a most promising condition at the close of the month, except in Michigan and portions of Ohio, the late seeding in the first named States not having stood satisfactorily, while in the latter State the plant is small and weak and in poor condition for the winter. The severe weather of the last decade may cause some damage to fields unprotected by snow, more particularly in portions of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, while alternating freezing and thawing was unfavorable for the crop in West Virginia and Missouri. Wheat is in excellent condition in the Pacific coast States. Reports of injury to the early-sown wheat by Hessian fly are quite general, although, with the exception of Michigan, Pennsylvania and Tennessee, the damage so far appears to be inconsiderable.

TO IMPROVE THE JAMES.

Estimates For Deepening and Widening Channel at Richmond.

Washington, Jan. 3.—General Wilson, chief engineer of the army, has sent to the House of Representatives a report on proposed improvements of the James River at Richmond, Va. It is estimated that \$724,943 will be the cost of a channel of 22 feet at mean low tide, with 200 feet width. Colonel Allen, the local engineer, recommends a turning area of 400 by 600 feet to cost from \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Plant's Successor in Control.

Savannah, Ga., Jan. 3.—S. R. Knott, the newly elected vice-president of the Plant System of Railways who will be the managing head of the properties under the new regime made necessary by the death of the late H. B. Plant, took charge this morning. Mr. Knott was formerly a vice-president of the Louisville and Nashville. His headquarters will be in this city.

Amendments to Financial Bill.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The Republican members of the Senate Finance Committee authorized Senator Aldrich to present amendments to the Financial Bill which he offered in the Senate today. One of them fixes the gold reserve at \$150,000,000 instead of \$100,000,000 as in the bill itself. The other amendments are for the purpose of making more clear the intention of the measure.

Lawton Fund \$44,122.

Washington, Jan. 3.—General Corbin, of the Lawton Fund Committee, announces that the total subscriptions to the fund to date amount to \$44,122.

The Marietta at Manila.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The Navy Department has been informed that the Marietta has arrived at Manila.

COMMITTEE TO HEAR CONTESTS

Members Will be Drawn by Lot Today.

EVIDENCE WILL BE HOT

TAYLOR WILL MAKE SENSATION. AL COUNTER CHARGES.

WHALLEN ARRAIGNED FOR BRIBERY

He is Held Over to the Grand Jury Under a Bond of \$10,000. Box Containing the Bribe Ordered Produced in Court.

Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 3.—The joint committee which will hear evidence in the Goebel-Taylor and Beckham-Marshall contests for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, will be formed tomorrow. The law provides that the members of the committee shall be drawn by lot, three in the Senate and eight in the House. The policy of the Goebel leaders will be to push the contests to a final issue as speedily as possible.

Governor Taylor's attorneys are preparing not only rebuttal evidence to offset the charges of fraud set forth in Goebel's notice of contest, but according to Senator DeBoe are going much further and attempting to show counter-frauds of a glaring nature on the Democratic side. The Senator says that, among other things, it will be brought out that Taylor was robbed of over 2,000 votes in Kenton county, Goebel's home. The Goebel side, under the Kentucky code of practice, in its taking of proof is restricted to the grounds laid down in the notices of contest, but under these they promise very sensational testimony regarding the election in many counties alleged to be damaging to many people prominent in the Kentucky political and business world, compared with which the Whallen alleged attempted bribery of Senator Harrell is only a sample.

Colonel Whallen was arraigned on the attempted bribery charge before Magistrate Thompson today and held over to the Franklin county grand jury, his bond being fixed at \$10,000. In the circuit court, President H. V. Loving, of the Louisville Trust Company, was before Judge Cantrell, charged with contempt for disobeying the order of the court to turn over the vault box alleged to hold the \$4,500, which it is claimed was to be paid to Harrell in the event he voted against Goebel in the contest. Loving stated that he merely desired to protect the customers of his company, and his attorney moved to quash the summons against him. This, the court overruled. Thereupon a response was filed to the rule for contempt and in this, it is stated, that Whallen, Harrell and Charles Ryan rented the box in question and deposited something in it, the box being sealed up and covered over with white paper. The trust company officials were notified not to allow the box opened except in the presence of and by the consent of all three parties. Judge Cantrell adjudged the response insufficient and ordered the box to be produced in court at 11 o'clock tomorrow. It is understood the order of the court will be complied with, a motion for an appeal to the Court of Appeals having been overruled.

It is said that an attempt will be made to have Senator Harrell indicted in Louisville where Whallen's attorneys claim the prosecution should have been instituted if any offense has been committed. The charge against Harrell would probably be conspiracy or accepting a bribe.

Ex-Confederate Congressman Dead.

Stockton, Cal., Jan. 3.—Peter S. Wilkes, an attorney, once a member of the Confederate Congress, is dead at his home here, aged 74 years. He was born in Tennessee and removed to Missouri, where he graduated from a university in 1852. A week afterward he was elected to the State Legislature. During the last year of the war Mr. Wilkes was elected to the Confederate Congress. At the close of hostilities he fled to Mazatlan, Mexico, where he remained until about 25 years ago, when he came to this city.

Bill to Repeal Stamp Tax.

Washington, Jan. 3.—A bill was introduced in the House today by Mr. Lewis, of Georgia, to repeal the stamp tax.

Postmaster Confirmed.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The Senate today confirmed the nomination of W. J. Watson as postmaster at Marianna, Fla.

Gold Shipment Today.

New York, Jan. 3.—Muller, Schall & Co. will ship \$150,000 gold on the German steamship sailing tomorrow.

Honored by Venezuela.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The Venezuelan Government has conferred the Order of the "Bust of Bolivar" on Admiral Sampson, Captains Taylor, Cook, Sigbee, Chadwick, Goodrich and Commanders Mead, Dayton, Symons and Todd, of the Navy, and Representative Hitt has introduced a bill authorizing the acceptance of the decorations.

GOVERNMENT FOR PORTO RICO.

Bill by Foraker Making the People United States Citizens.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Senator Foraker today introduced a bill providing a form of government for the island of Porto Rico. The bill provides for the continuance of the laws and municipal ordinances now in force in the island until the Legislature provided for shall supplant them. The President is empowered to appoint a Governor and a Supreme Court and also seven heads of departments to have charge of the various interests of the Government and also five native citizens, who together with the Governor and heads of departments are to constitute the upper branch of the insular legislature. A lower house of thirty-five members to be elected by citizens of the island is also provided for, and all inhabitants of the island are made citizens of the United States, the citizens are also to elect a delegate to Congress who is to have a seat but no vote. The island is to be divided into five districts for judicial and legislative purposes and each district is to have a local court to consist of such a number of judges as the Legislature may provide for.

The Constitution and laws of the United States are extended to the island so far as the latter are locally applicable. Export duties are prohibited and free trade is provided for between the island and the United States proper. Articles imported to Porto Rico from other countries than the United States are to pay the same duties as those imposed in the ports of this country.

CHOATE MUST WAIT

England Doesn't Know Whether Food is Contraband

Salisbury Consults the Ablest Lawyers About the Flour Seizures. Our Commercial Rights Will be Respected.

London, Jan. 3.—The United States Ambassador, Joseph H. Choate, visited the British Premier, Lord Salisbury, at the Foreign Office this evening for the purpose of making the first official representations on the subject of the Delagoa Bay flour seizures. Mr. Choate received no definite reply, as the Premier informed him that the British Government had not yet arrived at any decision as to whether or not foodstuffs were contraband of war. But, Lord Salisbury assured Mr. Choate that the commercial rights of the United States would be equitably considered and that a decision in this important matter would be reached as soon as possible. The interview was brief.

The Associated Press learns that Lord Salisbury has not only got the Attorney General, Sir Richard Webster, working hard on the question of the Delagoa Bay seizures, but that he is consulting with the ablest lawyers in Great Britain.

It was further learned by a representative of The Associated Press that Great Britain may lay down a new regulation regarding contraband, making a distinction between food evidently intended for domestic purposes and food palpably intended for field rations. Under the latter head might come certain classes of canned goods.

Claims Against Spain.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations today presented a report upon Senator Hoar's resolution in regard to claims of citizens of the United States against Spain. The committee presents a schedule of claims amounting to over a million dollars, and adds:

"It is impracticable to state even approximately the amount actually due on these claims or to allege in view of the state of records of the State Department of that date that there may not be others than those mentioned."

As to the remedy of the claimants, the committee expresses the opinion that the only present remedy is by diplomatic negotiation.

Chandler's Amendment.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Senator Chandler, of New Hampshire, today offered an amendment to the Financial Bill declaring it to be the policy of the United States to continue the use of both gold and silver as standard money and to coin both gold and silver; providing for international agreement or safeguard of legislation to insure maintenance of parity; and for the appointment of commissioners to an international conference.

Utah Witness Sends His Evidence.

Washington, Jan. 3.—A statement has been received from the remaining Utah witness, who was to appear before the committee investigating the case of Mr. Roberts, of Utah, giving the substance of the evidence he would give if sworn by the committee. This statement will be presented to the committee when it reassembles tomorrow. The material feature of it is said to be as to the marital relations existing between Roberts and Mrs. Maggie Shipp-Roberts.

Seaboard Crosses the Wateree.

Charlotte, N. C., Jan. 3.—A special from Spaulding, S. C., to the Observer says:

"The Seaboard Air Line train crossed the Wateree River at 5 o'clock this evening with a train load of rails and material and a private car of one of the high officials of the system attached on one of the most substantial and secure trestles ever built in the South. This marks the connection with the completed grading between here and Columbia and a force of a hundred laborers are laying track on to Columbia.

Senator Butler's Bill.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Senator Butler, of North Carolina, today introduced a joint resolution providing for a Constitutional amendment authorizing an income tax.

CLASH OF ARMS NEAR COLESBURG

Sharp Fighting in Progress Among the Hills.

THE BOERS FALLING BACK

AN ARTILLERY DUEL PROCEEDING AT KIMBERLEY.

FIRST STEP IN GENERAL METHUEN'S PLAN

Col. Pilcher's Occupation of Douglas One Result of a Carefully Matured Scheme to Attempt to Outflank the Boers. Relief of Kimberley the Object.

Nauwpoort, Cape Colony, Jan. 2.—(Tuesday).—There was brisk fighting today in the hills around Colesberg. The Boers stubbornly resisted the British at every point, but gradually retreated. The British held the extreme position to the south and east, overlooking the town.

The hills around Colesberg are numerous, not in ranges, but in groups, making it very difficult to hunt the Boers out. Sixteen wounded have arrived at Arundel.

PENNING IN THE BOERS.

London, Jan. 3.—A special dispatch from Nauwpoort, dated Tuesday, January 2nd, says the British commandant Norval's Port bridge with two guns and also command the Colesberg bridge and that the Boers have no way to retreat, except by way of Normberg.

The dispatch adds that big developments are expected tomorrow.

SHELLING THE FORT.

Kimberley, December 26th, 1899.—The Boers last night evinced considerable interest in the Premier mine, using their searchlights. This morning they actively shelled the fort. The Royal Artillery replied. Our shells were well placed, and dropped amid the smoke of the enemy's guns.

Last night's storm ignited some of our military mines, but there were no casualties. Cecil Rhodes has supplied the Boer prisoners with new clothing.

GENERAL METHUEN'S PLAN.

London, Jan. 3.—From a source which has many facilities of gaining inside news from South Africa, a representative of the Associated Press learns that Colonel Pilcher's occupation of Douglas is regarded as merely the first step of General Methuen's carefully matured plans to outflank the Boers.

According to this authority, it is probable Colonel Pilcher, in conjunction with General Babington's force from the Modder River, will proceed to the rear of those intrenchments which now prevent General Methuen from proceeding to Kimberley. Colonel Pilcher has only about forty miles' travel before he achieves this end, and, if this understanding is correct, an attack by General Methuen and a determined effort to relieve Kimberley may be expected any day.

BOERS ATTACK MOLTENO.

Sterkstroom, Cape Colony, Jan. 3.—(Morning).—The Boers attacked Molteno this morning. A brisk action is now in progress.

BRITISH LOSS AT LADYSMITH.

Since Joubert's Return the Boers Cannoneers Has Grown Heavier.

London, January 4. —(4:30 a. m.)—(Tuesday).—Since commandant General Joubert's return to the front the cannonade of Ladysmith by the Boers has been much livelier. Between December 18th and December 25th four shells killed one officer and thirteen men and wounded thirteen officers and eleven men.

The War Office acknowledges the inferiority of the regular artillery by authorizing the equipment of the new battery attached to the London volunteer corps with Vickers and Maxims, some of which the Boers use, and by ordering 100 of these 12½ pounder quick fire rifles built immediately. The officers and men of the new battery will be supplied from the honorable artillery company.

Eight additional militia regiments have been called out. Seven of these will serve in Ireland, replacing the regulars sent to South Africa.

Attress Sues a Divorcé.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 3.—Minnie Seligman Cutting, the well known actress, today, through her attorney, ex-Governor Johnston, filed suit in the Circuit Court for divorce from her husband, Robert Cutting. She alleges desertion. The couple were married July 18th, 1898, and Mrs. Cutting alleges that her husband has since remained away from her.

BATES NAMED BY MCKINLEY.

Major General of Volunteers. Wheaton Major General by Brevet.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The President today sent the following nominations to the Senate:

To be United States Consul, Alonzo C. Yates, of Virginia, at Patras. Transferred to Martinique.

War: Brigadier General J. C. Bates, to be Major General of Volunteers; Brigadier General Lloyd Wheaton, to be Major General of Volunteers by brevet.

To be Brigadier Generals, Colonel S. B. M. Young, Lieutenant Colonel Arthur MacArthur, Lieutenant Colonel William Ludlow.

Labelled Steamer Released.

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 3.—The Austro-American steamer Ragusa, labelled for \$10,000 by Steel, Young and Co., owners of the British steamship Bennett, which found the Ragusa at sea and towed her into Hampton Roads, gave bond today in the sum of \$20,000 and was released. The Ragusa will undergo repairs at Newport News.

ANGRY WITH BRITAIN

The German Foreign Office Alone Keeps Cool.

Elsewhere the Teuton is in a Threatening Mood. Notes Fly Between Berlin and London Regarding Bundesrath.

Berlin, Jan. 3.—The German Foreign Office informed the correspondent of the Associated Press this afternoon that Great Britain had not then answered Germany's note or protest regarding the seizure by the British cruiser Magicienne of the German Imperial mail steamer Bundesrath off Delagoa Bay. It appears that the British Foreign Office desires first to communicate with Durban on the subject. This desire is not regarded as indicating any disposition on the part of Great Britain to delay the final adjustment of the matter.

There has been a lively interchange of notes between London and Berlin, but the German Foreign Office is apparently keeping cool.

On the other hand a violent and threatening tone toward Great Britain is observable in other official quarters. The Berliner Tagblatt remarks that the anti-British sentiment is stronger than ever.

TO BAR OUT THE PLAGUE.

Measures to Prevent Its Introduction Into the Philippines.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The War Department is taking steps to prevent the introduction of the plague in the Philippines, and Secretary Root this morning called into consultation Surgeon General Wynnan, of the Marine Hospital Service, to discuss the establishment of a quarantine system for the islands. It was decided that the War Department should adopt towards the Philippines a policy like that it pursued towards Cuba in the matter of the protection of health, namely, confine the maintenance of a quarantine system to the Marine Hospital Service.

Surgeon General Wynnan has no confirmation of the report that three suspected cases of bubonic plague have been discovered within the walled city of Manila, but no attempt is made to conceal the gravity of the situation should the report prove true. Still, it is said, a few sporadic cases need not necessarily result in an epidemic in the islands.

A Steamer Ice Bound.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 3.—The steamer Oliver King is ice-bound in the Tennessee River near the mouth of Little River and is in a dangerous position.

On board the boat are twenty-five sports from Knoxville, London, Kingston and Chattanooga, who were on their way into Little River to have a big cocking main.

The supplies have been exhausted and a party left for Loudon today to get them reloaded.

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