

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Called From the Telegraph Columns.

A boiler in a sawmill near Montrose, Colo., exploded, killing three men.

General Miles has prepared a draft for a bill providing for a standing army of 100,000 men.

It is reported that the Great Northern has purchased a line to Portland and will soon come into that city over its own tracks.

Mad Mulah's fanatical movement has been partly checked, and a strong British force is held in readiness to move against the Rebels.

The appeal of General Lord Kitchener, of Khartoum, for funds to found a Gordon memorial college at Khartoum met with an immediate response in London. Over £70,000 out of the £100,000 asked for has already been subscribed.

During the past week five bodies have been picked up on the beach between Florence and Gardiner, Or., with a few miles' space. They are supposed to be the bodies of sailors of the wrecked Atalanta. If so, they must have been carried 40 miles by the ocean currents.

The young king of Spain has had a very pleasant windfall in the shape of a legacy of 3,000,000 pesetas, bequeathed to him by an old gentleman named Solar, who had a close though unacknowledged relationship to the king, being the natural son of Ferdinand VII, and great uncle of King Alfonso.

Advices from Russia say the reports of threatened famine there are growing more gloomy every day. Count Leo Tolstoy has petitioned the government for permission to form relief committees to cope with the distress, and the czar himself has contributed 500,000 roubles to the Red Cross Society to aid the starving peasants.

Thurlow Weed Barnes has brought suit in the New York supreme court against the American-China Development Company for \$1,000,000 for services in obtaining railroad concessions from the imperial Chinese government, through the Chinese minister at Washington. The concessions are worth in net profit at least \$12,000,000 to the company, and they may be worth \$24,000,000.

Thirty-seven people were drowned in the wreck of the steamer Olan Drummond in the bay of Biscay.

A gift to Wellesley college of \$50,000 from the estate of Charles T. Wilder has just been announced.

The 50th anniversary of Francis Joseph's accession to the throne was celebrated throughout Austria.

Three coalbarges were lost and the lives of 10 or 12 men were sacrificed in the recent Atlantic storm off Bargate.

The Philippine insurgents demand 7,000,000 pesetas for the release of 40 friars imprisoned since the commencement of the war.

A fire fiend attempted to burn John Wanamaker's big department store in Philadelphia, but was arrested before serious damage was done.

The liabilities of Gillett, the absconding Kansas cattle-plunger, continue to grow, the latest estimate placing the total at \$1,500,000.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to hold up and rob a Missouri Pacific passenger train near Sedalia, Mo. One bandit was captured and another was severely wounded.

Aguinaldo is said to be preparing to make resistance, and Spanish sympathizers in Madrid declare 80,000 men armed with Mausers will oppose American control of the Philippines.

Secretary Long has ordered the cruiser New York to Havana. On his arrival, Sampson will hoist his flag on the cruiser, and it is expected she will bring the admiral north next month.

A German government official, in an interview with a correspondent of the press in Berlin confirmed the report that Germany is negotiating with Spain for the purchase of the Caroline islands.

Advices from New Guinea say the native tribes living on Musa river lately raided the Masini villages, in Collingwood bay, and massacred 15 coast people. There are no police to deal with the murderers.

News from Samoa states that the natives held a meeting October 13 to discuss the question of the kingship. A number of conciliatory speeches were delivered, but no candidate was named, nor was any decision arrived at.

Two men have been arrested at London on charges of having robbed the Duchess of Sutherland of valuable jewelry in France last month. Part of the stolen jewelry was in the possession of the robbers when they were arrested.

Minor News Items.

The 26th body from the wrecked steamer Portland came ashore at Chatham, Mass.

Special Tariff Commissioner Robert Porter has sailed from Cuba for the United States, having completed his labors.

Five hundred and fifty men of the New York regiment have arrived in San Francisco from Honolulu to be mustered out.

LATER NEWS.

Over 800 Kentucky tobacco-growers met at Lexington to formulate a plan of action against the trust, which, they claim, threatens to deprive the growers of their just profits.

General Miles has completed his bill for the reorganization of the army. It is based on European lines and provides for the creation of three new officers, a general and two lieutenant-generals, and a total strength of 100,000 men.

An explosion of ammonia on board the marine hospital ship Bay State, as she was lying at a slip on the Brooklyn side of the upper New York bay, killed Robert Twiss and seriously injured 15 men. The accident occurred in the ice-making plant.

Senator Hale has introduced in the senate a joint resolution authorizing the secretary of the navy to erect a monument, in Havana, to the memory of the sailors and marines who lost their lives by the explosion of the Maine. The bill is recommended by the navy department.

To shield the flag from desecration is the object of a bill to be presented to congress by the American Flag Association. It provides for punishment of any person using the flag for advertising purposes, for clothing or awnings or in any other manner which shall tend to its desecration.

Alex Hanson, a fisherman, about 50 years of age, was drowned in about three feet of water on the tideflats in front of Astoria, Or. He was in a skiff that overturned, and he made no effort to save himself, although ropes and boards were thrown to him from a net above. He left a widow and several children.

The first of the appropriation bills, covering deficiencies for war expenses, reported to the house Wednesday, carried for the war department and military establishments, \$60,711,639; for the naval establishment, \$5,588,853; a total of \$66,300,492. This amount, however, is a reappropriation of funds heretofore allowed, but not available after the close of the present year. The unexpended balance of these war funds is estimated at \$94,816,165, of which the war department balance is \$61,216,261, and the navy balance \$33,599,904. The balances, therefore, are considerably more than will be reappropriated.

Virden rioters will be prosecuted as fast as information can be obtained against them.

The Carlist movement in Spain is gaining ground owing to the apathy of the Spanish government.

The official trial of the new torpedo boat Farragut, in San Francisco bay was a successful one in every respect.

Meyer of Louisiana, has introduced in the house a bill appropriating \$12,000,000 for the construction of a wide, deep channel from deep water of the Mississippi river to deep water of the Gulf of Mexico.

The history of the document which will certify the passing of the oldest colonial power in the world and the advent of the newest was epitomized by Judge Day in a single sentence: "A peace treaty to contain anything which the victors put into it."

News has been received of one vessel boarded by the Spaniards during the late war. She was the British bark Nellie Brett, and after a thorough examination was allowed to proceed. The boarding crew was from the Alfonso XIII, afterwards sunk by the Americans.

Senor Romer, Mexican minister to Washington, has notified Secretary Hay that Mexico has determined to advance her mission here to the rank of an embassy. Consequently, as soon as the necessary steps are taken, the United States minister to Mexico, Clayton, will become an ambassador.

Representative Cousins, of Iowa, has the honor of introducing the first bill in the house at this session. It is entitled "a bill declaring a standard of value in the United States," and provides that the standard of value in the United States is hereby declared to be and is the standard gold dollar of 25.8 grains of standard gold, 900 fine.

In conformity with the requirements of the law the secretary of the treasury has transmitted to congress the estimates of appropriations required for the service of the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1900, as furnished by the several executive departments. Those estimates include the permanent annual appropriation aggregating \$393,048,378, as against \$308,875,885, the amount of the appropriation including deficiencies and miscellaneous expenses for the fiscal year of 1898, and \$462,647,885, the amount of the estimates of 1899.

The estimates given below are the appropriations for Oregon and Washington for the coming year: Gray's harbor, Washington, \$500,000; Yaquina bay harbor, Oregon, \$400,000; custom-house, Portland, Or., \$200,000; Columbia river and Willamette river below Portland, \$150,000; Columbia river at the Cascades, \$100,000; entrance to Coos bay and harbor, Oregon, \$100,000; lighthouse at Semoahmo bay, Washington, \$25,000; lighthouse at Middle Ground, Columbia river, \$24,000; lighthouse at Burrows' island, Washington, \$15,000.

Senator Hale, of Maine, chairman of the naval affairs committee, has introduced a bill to revive the grades of admiral and vice-admiral of the navy.

The United States government will build a railroad and a wharf in Cuba at once. The wharf is to be at Tricortia, and the railroad will extend from that point to the military camp at Regla, seven miles away. This railroad will be the first to be built in Cuba under other than English auspices, backed by English money.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

Scheme for the Government of Hawaii.

TRANSMITTED BY PRESIDENT

Three Bills Accompany It, the First of Which Provides for a General Organization of the Territory.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The president today transmitted to congress the report of the Hawaiian commission, together with the text of bills drawn by the commission for government of the islands as part of the United States. Three bills are formulated for the consideration of congress. The first and principal one outlines a general plan of government and the other two deal with subordinate questions.

The main bill provides for the formation of the islands into a territory of the United States, to be styled the territory of Hawaii. The bill contains provisions for government of the territory, giving it legislative, executive and judicial officers. A governor, secretary of the territory, United States district judge, United States district attorney and United States marshal are to be appointed by the president and an internal revenue district and a customs district created.

The offices of president, minister for foreign affairs, finance, public instruction, auditor-general, deputy auditor-general, surveyor-general and marshal are abolished.

The officers of the territory under the new regime are attorney-general, superintendent of public works, superintendent of public instruction, auditor and deputy auditor, surveyor, treasurer, and a chief sheriff, to succeed to the duties of marshal of the republic, all to be appointed by the governor.

Probably the most important portion of the bill is section 4, defining citizenship, which provides: "All white persons, including Portuguese and persons of African descent, and all persons descending from the Hawaiian race on either paternal or maternal side who were citizens of the republic of Hawaii immediately prior to the transfer of sovereignty thereof to the United States are hereby declared citizens of the United States."

Provision is made for a legislature, to consist of two houses; a senate, to consist of 15 members, and a house of representatives, consisting of 30 members. The members are to be elected by general election.

Sessions of the legislature are limited to 60 days.

Five registration districts are provided, and the governor of the territory is authorized to appoint registration boards with the advice of the senate.

The bill also provides for the election of a delegate to the house of representatives in congress, this delegate to possess the same powers and privileges now accorded to other delegates in congress. The governor is to appoint a chief justice and two associate justices of the supreme court, the judges of the circuit court, the members of the board of health, commissioners of public instruction, prison inspectors, boards of registration, inspectors of election and other public officers that may be created by law and all officers whose salaries exceed \$2,000 per annum. Other provisions of the report are as follows:

The governor is to possess the veto power, but his veto may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of both houses of the legislature. The legislature is authorized to create town, city or county municipalities. Foreign goods and articles imported into the islands after July 7, 1898, are, if afterwards brought into the United States, to pay the same duty charged upon like articles which are imported from any foreign country.

Existing laws of Hawaii, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the United States or this act, continue in force subject to repeal or amendment by the legislature of Hawaii or by congress. The laws of Hawaii relating to public or government lands will continue in force until changed by congress. Laws relating to agriculture and forestry are continued in force.

The bill also provides that the constitution and laws of the United States locally applicable shall have the same force and effect in the territory of Hawaii as elsewhere in the United States.

Bill for Sugar-Beet Bounty.
Salem, Or., Dec. 8.—While looking after other business interests at the capital, Turner Oliver is incidentally doing what he can to further the interests of a bill providing for a sugar-beet bounty. It is his purpose to have introduced at the coming session of the legislature the bill introduced at the special session, which failed to get through. The report that a colony of Mormons have settled in the Grand Ronde valley, in pursuance of a contract to supply the factory with sugar beets, Mr. Oliver says, is not correct. A number of farmers are under contract, he says, to furnish beets to the factory, but there is no Mormon colony.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The transport Puelha arrived at Manila today. No deaths are reported.

Massacred by Niger Tribesmen.
London, Dec. 8.—The British foreign office has received news that Lieutenant Keating and Gale and 12 native soldiers were massacred in October, while parleying with the tribesmen of the Niger territory between Jobba and Ilo.

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—Another body, supposed to be that of Judge Carter, an Eastern racing judge, was found in the ruins of the Baldwin hotel today.

FIRST DAY OF WORK.

Anti-Expansion Resolution Introduced in the Senate.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The first note of the anti-expansionists was sounded in the senate today by Vest (Dem. Mo.), who introduced the following joint resolution:

"That under the constitution of the United States no power is given to the federal government to acquire territory to be held and governed permanently as colonies. The colonial system of European nations cannot be established under our present constitution, but all territory acquired by the government, except such small amount as may be necessary for coaling stations, correction of boundaries and similar governmental purposes must be acquired by the government with the purpose of ultimately organizing such territory into states suitable for admission into the Union."

A brief discussion of the navigation laws was precipitated by the consideration of a bill amending those laws by the adoption of a provision that foreign-built vessels wrecked in the United States, purchased by citizens of this country and repaired to the extent of three-fourths of their value, shall be subject to forfeiture if they engage subsequently in the coastwise trade of the United States.

In the House.
The house was in session less than half an hour today, when the death of Representative Northway, of Ohio, and Love, of Mississippi, were announced, and an adjournment was taken until tomorrow, out of respect to their memory. The customary resolution for the distribution of the president's message to the several committees having jurisdiction was adopted, and the deficiency bill, carrying the appropriations for the extraordinary expenditures of the army and navy for January 1, to July 1, 1899, was reported and will be taken up by the house tomorrow. The report of the Hawaiian commission, transmitted by the president, was laid before the house and referred to the committee on territories, together with a bill offered by Hitt to carry out the recommendations of the committee.

SILVER DOLLARS ARE LEGAL.

Have Been So Decided by a Michigan Judge.

Pontiac, Mich., Dec. 8.—Judge Smith rendered his decision in the case of Stephen A. Baldwin vs. Fred A. Baker, in favor of the former. The circumstances leading up to the suit were these:

Baldwin owns a farm in Bloomfield valued at \$3,000, and upon which Baker holds a mortgage for \$330. The mortgage was obtained by assignment from its original holder, December 13, 1897, and there was due in interest and principal upon the mortgage \$364. In payment Baldwin tendered Baker 364 silver dollars, which he refused to accept. Baker at once began steps to foreclose the mortgage. Baldwin filed a bill in chancery, asking that the mortgage be discharged, inasmuch as he had tendered payment to Baker.

Baker filed a lengthy answer in reply, covering all the points of the coinage laws. In it he quoted the coinage law passed by congress February 12, 1873, providing that the standard gold dollar "should be the unit of value." On this basis he argued he was not being paid full value of the mortgage, as a silver dollar's market value was but 58 1-8 cents.

Judge Smith's decision was that the tender of the silver as payment for the mortgage was good, and accordingly ordered the mortgage discharged as paid.

CUBANS MAKING THREATS.

Spaniards Anxiously Awaiting the Arrival of Americans.

Havana, Dec. 8.—The Union Espanol, the organ of the Spanish residents of this island, demands that the censor prohibit the publication of insults to Spain and insolent remarks directed against the United States. The separatist papers continue to publish articles insulting the Spanish residents, telling the latter to leave the island or prepare to be hanged. Many Spanish families are leaving interior towns, fearing that the insurgent forces will take possession of them before the arrival of the American troops.

The following warning has been placarded at the corners of the different streets recently cleaned:

"I, the Marquis Estaban, mayor of Havana, do hereby make known that this street has been cleaned and disinfected at the expense of the United States of America. All persons who throw or deposit dirt or refuse of any kind here will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law."

A dispatch from Puerto Principe says the Cuban general, Lopez Recio, will enter that city at the head of his troops, who will then lay down their arms and be dismissed.

France's Ultimatum to China.

Peking, Dec. 8.—The French minister, M. Gerard, has sent an ultimatum to the Chinese foreign office, threatening that unless the French missionary now held a prisoner by the rebels in the province of Sze-Chuen be released within 10 days, a force of French troops will be ordered to cross the frontier.

Algiers, Dec. 8.—The French steamer Algerois has foundered near Bona, a fortified seaport town of Algeria, near the mouth of the river Seibous. Eleven persons were drowned.

Four men were killed and several severely injured at Fort Independence, on Castle island, in Boston harbor, by the explosion of a mine which had been removed from the channel by a diver. The dead are: Sergeant Morris McGrath, Hiram Vaughan, Private Brennan (diver), and Ryan, a citizen.

THRONED WITH SPECTATORS

Opening of Final Session of Fifty-Fifth Congress.

INTERESTING CIRCUMSTANCES

A Few Bills Were Introduced in the House—Adjournment Soon After the Reading of the Message.

Washington, Dec. 7.—When the senate convened Monday to begin the closing session of the 55th congress, the chamber presented a notable and beautiful appearance. By 11 o'clock the public and private galleries were filled almost to their capacity with a distinguished assemblage, including many ladies in brilliant attire.

On the floor of the senate the display of flowers was unusually beautiful even for the opening day of a session of congress. The odor of flowers filled the chamber. The memorable scenes enacted in the chamber during the last session, and the momentous events that have occurred since congress last adjourned created a feeling of intense expectancy on the part of the spectators and the members of the senate. This was made manifest by the long lines of people in the corridors anxious to gain admission to the galleries and by the early arrival of the senators on the floor. Through the courtesy of the vice-president, the members of the joint high commission were admitted to the floor of the senate, and were the recipients of much attention.

Just before the senate was called to order, several well-known members of the diplomatic corps appeared in the diplomatic gallery.

Promptly at 12 o'clock Hobart rapped for order. Mr. Mitburn, the venerable blind chaplain, in a profoundly impressive manner, returned "devout and reverent thanks for God's goodness to us as a nation and for his care of us since last gathered in the chamber."

The call of the senate developed the presence of 67 members. The usual resolutions were offered and adopted. Cullom of Illinois offered one to appoint a committee to inform the house that the senate was ready to transact business; Hale of Maine, one fixing the hour of daily meetings at 12 o'clock noon, and Morrill of Vermont, one to appoint a committee to notify the president that the senate was awaiting any communication he might desire to make. Morrill of Vermont, and Cockrell of Missouri, were named by the vice-president to join a like committee of the house to call on the president.

McBride of Oregon, presented the credentials of his colleague, Simon, to whom the vice-president administered the oath of office.

The reading of the message occupied two hours and 18 minutes. Many persons remained in the galleries throughout the reading, but, as is usual, little attention was given to the presentation of the message, either in the galleries or on the floor, after the first few pages. The senate adjourned shortly after the reading of the message.

In the House.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The opening session of congress Monday was a spectacular occasion, animated and brilliant. There were more than the usual number of distinguished personages in the thronged galleries, including many representatives of foreign governments, high officials, and ladies and gentlemen conspicuous in social and political life. The greetings of the members were most cordial, and there was no outcropping of partisan rancor to mar the occasion. One of the most striking incidents was the cordial meeting between the floor leaders of the respective sides, Messrs. Dingley and Bailey. In view of the gossip about the possibility of Mr. Bailey being deposed as the minority leader, it is significant that the speaker named Mr. Bailey as the minority member of the committee to wait upon the president, an honor always bestowed upon the recognized leader of the minority.

Speaker Reed received a warm welcome from both sides of the house when he ascended the rostrum to call the house to order, but perhaps the greatest personal ovation to any member was that given Major-General Wheeler, of Alabama, who has not been seen by many of his old colleagues since he went to the front at the head of the cavalry division of General Shafter's army. Mr. W. A. Stone, of Pennsylvania, McMillin, of Tennessee, and Mr. Sayers, of Texas, who have been elected governors of their respective states since congress adjourned, were also overwhelmed with congratulations.

The floral tributes today were unusually numerous and made the hall a veritable bower of beautiful flowers. The proceedings themselves were dull, all interest centering in the reading of the president's message. For over two hours the clerk droned through the long document, but the interest of members and spectators never flagged. With rapt attention they followed the president's recital of the war and listened eagerly to every suggestion or recommendation he had to offer. No expressions of approval or disapproval interrupted the reading.

Chicago Theater Burned.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—Fire badly damaged the Lincoln theater at 468 North Clark street tonight. The evening performance had been concluded and the audience had left the building but a few minutes, when the fire broke out. The members of the "Dawn of Freedom" company, which is at the theater, were still in the building, and they were compelled to make a hasty exit, none of them saving any considerable portion of their clothing. The loss is about \$60,000.

MESSAGE COMMENT.

Views of a Number of Senators and Representatives.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Many senators excused themselves from expression of opinions at length upon the president's message, on the ground that they had not been able to give careful attention to all the details. Republican senators were, however, willing to express themselves in a few general words of commendation.

Senator Cullom regarded it as "a painstaking, entertaining and accurate historical review."

Senator Platt, of New York, commended the expression of a determination to increase the standing army, and to maintain order in Cuba until the Cubans can take care of themselves.

Senator Wolcott said it was an admirable document.

Senator Lodge said it was "able and excellent."

Senator Foraker—A good presentation of facts generally, but a little indefinite on the question of Cuban independence.

Senator Proctor—A good American paper.

Senator Perkins—An able resume of the situation and facts leading up to the war.

The Democrats were even more adverse than the Republicans to discuss the paper. Senator Jones, of Arkansas, was an exception. He found in the message a number of points which did not accord with his views. One of these was the proposition to continue the volunteer army in existence until the standing army can be increased.

"Some of us do not favor the increase of the standing army," he said, "and the president has no right to assume that a majority stand with him on that proposition."

As Viewed in London.

London, Dec. 7.—Much having been expected, there is a certain tone of disappointment in the morning paper editorials on President McKinley's message. Its noncommittal character is attributed to the fact that the negotiations of the peace commissioners at Paris are not finished.

Considerable satisfaction is expressed at the references to Anglo-American relations, and at the coldness displayed toward Russia.

The Daily News complains of the "ambiguity of the message on commercial and currency matters," and "the conspicuous absence of any allusion to free trade."

The Times says: "It is creditable to both the dignity and good sense of the American people that a message announcing the victorious ending of the great war, the acquisition of territory and initiation of an imperialist policy is sober in tone and moderate in recommendations."

The Daily Chronicle pays a tribute to the "sober, sound common sense and straightforward language" of the message, pointing out that President McKinley's reference to the military occupation of Cuba virtually outlines a policy "precisely the same as Great Britain in Egypt and likely to have the same effect."

DEBTS OF THE ISLANDS.

They Will Not Be Mentioned in the Treaties.

London, Dec. 5.—The Paris correspondent of the Standard, says: The peace commissions have agreed not to mention the Cuban or Philippine debts in the treaty, because it might lead to misapprehension. The American commissioners have indicated to the Spaniards that these debts cannot possibly, in law, right or equity, be saddled upon Cuba or the Philippines, since the money employed was not for the benefit of the colonies, but to compel them, by force of arms, to suffer the oppressive Spanish rule from which they are seeking to free themselves.

The Madrid correspondent of the Daily News says: It is officially announced that the Spanish peace commissioners have secured a concession granting Spain commercial advantages in the Philippines for 10 years. An effort will be made to secure a similar concession in the Antilles.

FIVE LIVES LOST.

A Terrible Nitro-Gelatin Explosion at Picoles, Cal.

Picoles, Cal., Dec. 7.—The nitro-gelatin house of the Judson Powder Company blew up at 3:35 this afternoon, killing Superintendent Charles Kennedy and four Chinese, the only workmen in the building at the time. The explosion was a terrific one, four tons of nitro-gelatin blowing up, completely demolishing the building. The same house was badly damaged by an explosion six weeks ago, and two Chinese were killed. Superintendent Kennedy was superintending some mixing when the explosion of this afternoon occurred. It is probable that the cause of the explosion will never be known, as no one who was in the building escaped death.

Newport, R. I., Dec. 7.—Block island suffered severely from the storm last night. The three-masted Nova Scotia schooner Vamoose, loaded with coal, went ashore during the night on Clay head, on the east side of the island. The captain and mate were drowned. Two of the crew were able to reach shore in safety, and four others were taken off by the life-saving crew in the breeches buoy.

Garcia at Washington.

Washington, Dec. 7.—General Garcia, with his staff, called at the war department today to pay his respects to Acting Secretary Meiklejohn. Mr. Meiklejohn chatted for a few minutes with his callers, but not upon matters of business. The Cubans had previously seen Secretary Gage and conferred with him on economic questions relating to the administration of affairs in Cuba. They professed themselves very well satisfied with the reception accorded them by Mr. Gage.