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Has opened with a rush that shows how well the people of Astoria and vicinity appreciate good values.

In our store you do not have to look for bargains—They meet your eyes at every turn.

The A. Dunbar Co

A CRISIS IMPENDING.

Buller Will Probably Make an Advance Movement Today or Tomorrow.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London, says:

The clubs were crowded last evening until midnight since there was a general impression that the crisis of the war had come with a battle impending on the Tugela. This feeling of suspense was strengthened by bulletins reciting vigorous shelling of the Boer trenches yesterday morning with little and the destruction of intrenchments with minor incidents such as the shifting of the enemy's positions, the stampede of their horses and constant outpost duty.

In the newspaper offices there was a shew of important dispatches relating to the adventures of Thorneycroft's scouts on the upper Tugela. Admissions of Boer deserters, that General Joubert's army was suffering from lack of food, the trial of the traction engine for transport service, the destruction of a large gun at Colenso by a shell from a naval gun and the escape of six horsemen from Ladysmith during a thunderstorm, two of whom were fantastically reported as Dr. Jameson and Colonel Rhodes. These were trifles light as air in comparison with the tremendous conflict which was known to be imminent.

General Buller, since his defeat, has called into Natal every battalion and battery upon which he could lay his hands and has stiffened his force in every way practicable for a supreme effort to break through the Boer line of defense and relieve Ladysmith. Even the stoutest hearted Englishman has been constrained to hold his breath until the issue of the battle is known. Public anxiety has not been deeper than the feeling of suspense among military men. They have described the Boer defensive position, 16 miles in length, with relays of horses behind it, by which the forces could be rapidly concentrated at any point that might be strongly attacked, as something unique in military history. There never was anything like it and ordinary tactics and strategy studied by the staff college have provided no expedients for regulating a scientific attack on a swollen river with concealment of the enemy's position.

Boer occupation of two points on the southern bank and the extension of their line until it was hardly practicable to turn it, and the remarkable mobility of the Boer force has increased the difficulties of a most formidable enterprise. The most thoughtful veterans have added that, while this new defensive system with long range guns in concealed trenches and thousands of horses under saddle has been successful when attacked at the point of least resistance, it might prove weak and vulnerable at the point of last resistance. The Boers, adapting themselves to British tactics, had devised a most ingenious scheme of defense. It might prove unexpectedly weak if the British generals in turn could adapt

their attack to it with any degree of flexibility.

While Colenso remains the center of interest operations have proceeded elsewhere which serve to indicate increased mobility and improved tactics on the British side. The Dutch forces have made a belated effort to follow up their victory at Stormberg by an advance upon Mafeking and Cynegat, but General Gatacre sent infantry and a battery to relieve the Cape police and the Irish rifles and reoccupied both villages after a brisk artillery fire.

The two Dutch commandos which had skirmished with the outposts and advanced on the British camp retreated when the shells began to burst among them. General Gatacre's official report shows that the police have retired from Bardsrecht and taken a position on the Ndwaba line and that a company of mounted infantry had reconnoitered to Prieska. While this skirmishing is on a small scale, there is evidence that Gatacre is alert and vigilant and that his scouting work is well done.

Reinforcements have been sent from De Aar to General French who is still hovering about Colenso and apparently maneuvering to cut off the retreat of the Boers to the railway bridge. A heavy artillery fire is reported, but the result of the fighting is indecisive as General French avoids a frontal attack and is content to hold a strong position and continue to be wily and harass the enemy without striking a blow.

The imperial yeomanry corps is rapidly mobilizing and the Prince of Wales will review the London contingent. About 11,000 men will be allowed to serve, out of a total force of 24,000 volunteers and yeomanry, and only 11 battalions of militia will go abroad with 50 held back in reserve. It is a mistake to suppose that Great Britain will be denuded of battalions when the Eighth division is mobilized. There is more battalions on duty in Great Britain at this moment than there were at the outbreak of the war.

Notwithstanding all these signs of patriotism for imperial defense, there are misgivings and searching of hearts respecting the origin and justice of the war. Dr. Fairbanks, principal of Mansfield college, Oxford, easily the leading non-conformist minister in the United Kingdom, has written an article in this week's Speaker, in which he takes the ground that the men responsible for the blunders which have sullied the English name and for the loss of lives which have impoverished the people, lack the competence required to see the thing through.

ITALY NOT SLOW.

The Delay of Her Answer Due to Absence of Our Ambassador.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—It is learned that, although Italy was the last of the powers addressed to return an answer to Secretary Hay's overture regarding the "open door" policy, that government really was more prompt than any other in the negotiations.

This is explained by the fact that the Italian government was addressed on the subject some time after the other continental nations had it under consideration, owing to the fact that our ambassador, Mr. Draper, was away from his post on leave of absence in the United States when the identical note of instructions was sent out and it was regarded as best to make no departure from the rule which had been adopted in the case of the other governments of addressing them through the United States representatives at the foreign capitals.

Immediately upon Mr. Draper's return to Rome at a not distant date in the past, he laid the matter before the Italian government which therefore has acted with more promptness than most of the other powers. The agreements have not yet been reduced to their final form, but the state department will now enter upon the task of putting them into shape, and as in each case the agreement to the principles involved in our invitation is returned in unequivocal terms, according to the department officials, it is now anticipated that no difficulty will be experienced in accomplishing this work satisfactorily.

Pending that outcome the state department does not intend to make any statement for the public as to the exact terms of the agreement, though it is admitted that the ground has been covered with unusual accuracy in the press reports up to this point.

A CLEVER FORGER.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Jan. 5.—Merchants here have been victimized in wholesale style by a clever forger of small checks drawn upon the bank of British Columbia, signed "Morrison & Armstrong." Each check was drawn

in favor of George Volkmar, who represented himself as a workman in the employ of the firm. The forger has not been arrested. The police have his description.

MICHIGAN GENEROUS.

LANSING, Mich., Jan. 5.—Governor Pingree today sent a special message to the house, recommending the passage of a bill for the relief of sick and indigent soldiers of the Spanish-American war, the \$184,000 which had been appropriated for this purpose having become exhausted, a bill appropriating \$75,000 for the purpose was immediately passed.

TELLER GETS FIVE YEARS.

BOSTON, Jan. 5.—Joel G. Tyler, late teller of the Safety National bank of Fitchburg was today sentenced in the United States court to serve five years in Worcester jail for embezzling funds of the bank.

ORDERED TO SOUTH AFRICA.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Captain Reichman, of the Seventeenth infantry now in the Philippines, has been ordered to South Africa to report upon military operations in the Transvaal.

ROLAND REED IMPROVED.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—Roland Reed was reported today to be resting comfortably and much improved.

WEST SIDE NEWS.

Mrs. Phil Condit was in Hammond Tuesday.

Albert Hill and wife were in Astoria Tuesday.

L. A. Conn came a trip to Portland Wednesday.

E. M. Philbaum visited Fort Stevens Sunday.

Geo. May and wife spent the holidays in Portland.

Miss Kate May was visiting in Portland last week.

Mrs. J. M. Turney, of Flavel, is visiting in Portland.

Grandpa Kindred is spending the holidays in Portland.

Mr. Monroe Grimes returned from Baker City last week.

Capt. Downs and H. C. Smith made a trip to Seaside Friday.

Miss Nelly Ledwell visited her aunt at Hammond last week.

A. W. Utzinger has opened a new restaurant in Hammond.

Mrs. J. Dillon continues the restaurant at McIntire's old place.

Miss Amelia Larson spent Christmas with her people in Seapooce.

Mrs. J. M. Richardson and Miss Nelly are visiting in Portland.

Miss Munson was a guest of Mrs. Lolly the latter part of the week.

Grandpa Hill was shopping in Astoria the early part of the week.

E. C. Munson was in Hammond on Sunday and returned to Skipanon that evening.

Mrs. K. A. Mason returned from her Christmas vacation and resumed school Tuesday.

Miss Irene Johnson, of Astoria, visited Mrs. J. V. Mott, of Hammond, on Saturday.

Mrs. K. A. Mason returned from Portland Tuesday and has resumed her school.

A merry party watched the old year out and the new year in at the home of F. H. Mudd.

Victor Peterson has re-entered the life-saving service and is now stationed at Golden Gate.

Mrs. S. A. Jones has returned to her home in Woodlawn after spending the holidays in Skipanon.

Grandpa Kindred returned from Portland Tuesday, where he has been spending the holidays.

Miss Cora Regie and Miss Hensie Regie had Astoria for years. He writes: "I could see no improvement whatever, though I was constantly treated with purgatives and washes, and different inhalant remedies—in fact, I could feel that each winter I was worse than the year previous."

"Finally it was brought to my notice that Catarrh was a blood disease, and after thinking over the matter, I saw it was unreasonable to expect to be cured by remedies which only reached the surface. I then decided to try S. S. S., and after a few bottles were used, I noticed a perceptible improvement. Continuing the remedy, the disease was forced out of my system, and a complete cure was the result. I advise all who have this dreadful disease to abandon their local treatment, which has never done them any good, and take S. S. S. promptly that can reach the disease and cure it."

To continue the wrong treatment for Catarrh is to continue to suffer. Swift's Specific is a real blood remedy, and cures obstinate, deep-seated diseases, which other remedies have no effect whatever upon. It promptly reaches Catarrh, and never fails to cure even the most aggravated cases.

S. S. S. For Blood

Is Purely Vegetable, and is the only blood remedy guaranteed to contain no dangerous minerals.

Books mailed free by Swift Specific Company, Atlanta, Georgia.

WILD WITH ECZEMA

One of Pittsburg's Most Estimable Business Men Certifies to the Wonderful Efficacy of Cuticura.

I was a sufferer for eight years from that most distressing of all diseases, Eczema. I tried some of the best physicians in the country, but they did me little good. The palms of my hands were covered, and would become inflamed; little white blisters at first would appear, then they would peel off, leaving a red, smooth surface which would burn like fire, and itch; well, there is no name for it. On the inside of the upper part of both my limbs, great red blotches, not unlike hives, would appear, and as soon as I became warm, the burning and itching would begin. Night after night I would lie awake all night and scratch and almost go mad. I got a box of CUTICURA Ointment, a bottle of CUTICURA RESOLVENT, and gave them a thorough trial, and after a few applications I noticed the redness and inflammation disappear; before I had used one box there was not a sign of Eczema left. I can truthfully assert that \$2.00 worth of CUTICURA REMEDIES cured me.

J. D. PORTE, 428 4th Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.

CUTICURA THE SET \$1.25

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humor, consisting of CUTICURA SOAP (25c.), to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, CUTICURA Ointment (50c.), to allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT (50c.), to cool and cleanse the blood. A single set is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring skin and scalp humors, rashes, blemishes, and irritations, with loss of hair, especially of infants and children, when the best physicians and all other remedies fail. Sold throughout the world. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston. "How to Cure Every Humor," free.

BAD COMPLEXIONS, pimples, blotches, blackheads, red, rough, oily skin, red, rough hands with shapeless nails, dry, thin, and falling hair, with itching, scaly, irritated scalp, prevented by CUTICURA MEDICAL AND TOILET SOAP, the most effective skin purifying and beautifying soap in the world, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and nursery. Two soaps combined in one at one price, 25c.

gle, of Vancouver, are visiting their parents at Fort Stevens.

Recent letters from August Brown, who is still in Dawson, reports him in good health and prosperous.

Wm. Stoddard, with his children, left for Chemawah on Saturday. The children will enter the school there.

Miss Nelly Stanley, of Seaside, who has been visiting the family of Chas. Schals, returned to her home last Friday.

The new year was ushered in on the West Side with much noise and eclat. The ringing of bells, the firing of bombs and yells of school boys drove sleep from the eyes of those so inclined.

The masquerade of the season was given at Hammond in Ford's hall on Saturday evening. Thirty couples were in costume. Prizes were awarded to "Topsy," Mrs. J. Lambly, of Astoria, and "the clown," L. B. Henderson, of Vancouver, by the judges, L. A. Conn, F. S. Munson and Ford Parker.

A delicious supper was served at the Flatman hotel at midnight and during the evening N. J. Carrie served ice cream at the hall.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership heretofore existing between C. W. Rich and Alice May, under the firm name of Rich & May, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent, Alice May retiring. All the indebtedness of the launch Ethel has been assumed by C. W. Rich and all the bills due the launch Ethel must be paid to the Commercial Collection Agency, Dalgity & Reed, proprietors.

C. W. RICH ALICE MAY.

Dated December 28, 1899.

LADIES' TAILOR-MADE SUITS.

Ladies who go to Portland and desire something especially fine in the way of tailor-made suits will do well to remember that they can be well fitted at I. D. Boyer's 177 Fourth street, in the Y. M. C. A. building.

Not only does he keep a strictly first-class cutter for men's wear, but also one exclusively for ladies' work, and all can rest assured of getting not only good work, but the best of materials, as Mr. Boyer is an expert on woolen cloths.

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Alaska Fishermen Packing Company will be held at 2 o'clock on Monday, January 8, 1906, at Hanthorn hall.

Attest: JOHN NORDSTROM, Sec.

All Astorians who visit Portland and desire spending a pleasant evening in company with polite people and in the enjoyment of an unexcelled musical program, should go to the Fredericksburg. Besides vocal and instrumental selections there are many other attractions to delight the visitors. The new management is making the Fredericksburg a well-merited success.

BROWN & GRANT, Props.

W. C. A. Pohl,

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Undertaker, Embalmer and Funeral Director

Caskets and Funeral Supplies constantly on hand.

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THE PROOF

of the pudding is in the eating and the proof of liquors IS IN SAMPLING

That's an argument that's conclusive—a demonstration. Ours will stand the test.

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FINE TEAS AND COFFEES

CALL ON...

Pure Spices Extracts Baking Powder

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Nice Work.

I can wash and iron, but can not do it as nice as the

New Columbia Steam Laundry.

I am young and they are old hands at the business, you know.

Telephone 981 and they will call for your wash and you will be pleased. J. W. DALTON, Proprietor.

Simple Arithmetic

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... For Instance ...

Dr. Kilmer's Swamproot is marked and sold by most druggists for \$1.00 per bottle

While our Cut-Price is 65 " " Leaving a little remainder in your pocket of 35

This isn't the only example; we sell all patent medicines and druggist corresponding prices:

Pinkham's Compound, 65c; Hood's Sarsaparilla, 73c; Paine's Celery Compound, 75c; Scott's Emulsion, 73c; Pierce's Prescription, 69c; Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, 69c.

All these preparations are marked and sold by most stores for \$1.00.

Woodard, Clarke & Co.,

Cut-Rate Druggists, Fourth and Washington Sts., Portland. Let us send you our Cut-Rate Catalogue.

J. O. Gillen & Co.,

Dealers, Manufacturers, and Contractors

Of Asbestos Boiler and Pipe Coverings

229 Second St., PORTLAND, ORE.

DO YOU BATHE? NO. WHY?

Because at our home we have neither a bathtub, nor hot water handy.

Then go to the Russian Baths at 217 Astor St. 25 cents is the price. Private apartments for ladies. Only the better class of patronage is catered to. Try one and you will come regularly.

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Decorative Art Room.

Full Line of Newest Embroidery Materials. Initials a Specialty. Choice Selection of Sampling Designs. Stamping Neatly Done.

Room 320 Dekum Bldg., 34 and Washington Sts., Portland, Ore.

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Steamers—"R. P. Elmore," "W. H. Harrison" Only line—Astoria to Tillamook, Garibaldi, Bay City, Hobsonville.

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Carried Down Stream. When a man crosses some difficult place in his working career, springing all his energies to accomplish some critical passage in his business journey, suddenly finds his health giving way and feels himself swept out of the saddle by the swift-running current of disease—then is the time when the marvelous rejuvenating properties of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery will prove an untailing means of rescue and restoration.

It is a very simple though eminently scientific medicine. It is not a mere stimulant like so many multi-herb extracts. It restores healthy power by reviving the innermost sources of vitality in the nutritive system. It enables the digestive and blood-making organism to manufacture good blood abundantly and rapidly, so that the immense waste of tissue and nerve fiber entailed by hard labor is offset by a speedy upbuilding of fresh energy and strength.

A prominent and venerable Illinois physician, Dr. W. W. Fowler, M. D., of Fowler, Adams Co., Ill., writes to Dr. Pierce, says: "I send herewith thirty-one (31) cents in stamps for 'The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser' in cloth binding. With this I enclose a testimonial, truly a gift to the public. I must express my high appreciation of the vast amount of good measure of your usefulness never has been, and never will be estimated by the public, so not even by the multitude of afflicted humanity that has been relieved and cured by your medicines. Whenever I go or have been in the United States, I find persons who have used and are using Dr. Pierce's medicines with satisfaction, for all conditions for which they are recommended. Never has one spoken disparagingly of their action, and from having seen so often their good effects, I am also convinced with confidence in their action in cases and conditions for which they are recommended. It is not common for regular physicians to endorse and recommend proprietary medicines, but in this case I have no objection or hesitancy in so doing."

The quick constipation-cure—Doctor Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. Never gripe.