

The Morning Astorian.

VOL. L.

ASTORIA, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1900.

NO. 204

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MARTIAL LAW IS DECLARED

Frankfort in the Hands of
the Militia.

SENATOR GOEBEL DYING

Shot Through the Body at the
Capital Yesterday.

HIS ASSASSIN IS UNKNOWN

Democratic Legislature to Meet This
Morning But Will Not Be Al-
lowed to Carry Out Its Pur-
pose to Seat Goebel.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 31.—Martial law will be declared in Frankfort at 6 o'clock this morning. The attempt to seat Goebel will be stopped by the militia. The legislature at which the democrats hope to seat Goebel meets at 10 o'clock today. A high officer in the militia says that whatever it does it will not seat Goebel. Soldiers have been arriving at intervals all night. About 500 men are here now.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 31, 2:10 p. m.—Dr. Hume announces that there is very little hope of Goebel's recovery. He will not likely live through the morning.

THE DECISION PRECIPITATED.

After Goebel's Shooting His Board
Decides in His Favor.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 30.—While William Goebel lay at the point of death in his room as a result of an assassin's bullet, the contesting boards which for two weeks had been listening to the evidence in his contest for the governor's chair, declared him entitled to the seat.

The boards having in charge the contest between Goebel and Taylor for governor and Beckham and Marshall for lieutenant governor met at 7 o'clock tonight. A vote was then taken and by a strict party vote of 10 to 1, William Goebel was declared to have been legally elected governor of Kentucky.

The Beckham-Marshall contest was then voted upon and a strict party vote of 9 to 2 settled this matter. No announcement of the reason leading up to the report was made to night, the boards taking everything at one leap. Each one of the members of both committees announced that he had made up his mind as to the merits of the case and voted promptly as his name was called. In the contest for governor, Representative Varberry was one vote in favor of Taylor, and in the Beckham-Marshall contest Reid and Lilly were with Marshall.

It is certain Goebel will be made governor tomorrow if he is alive. Mr. Edelen, one of Governor Taylor's counsel, said that it would be idle to argue the cause in view of the state of mind generally prevalent. Colonel W. C. P. Breckinridge said he had addressed a communication to the chairman of the two boards setting forth why arguments should not proceed. He said that the lives of the attorneys for Governor Taylor had been threatened.

The republicans will probably as soon as the decision is rendered in favor of Goebel, make application in the United States circuit court at Cincinnati for an injunction restraining Goebel and Beckham from taking their seats and the battle will then be continued before Judge Taft, of that court.

The grounds upon which the injunction will be asked, are the prejudice of the legislative body and the alleged unfitness of several members of the contesting boards to sit in judgment upon the case.

The bullet which struck Goebel was fired from a window in the center of the third story of an office building just east of the capitol. That window was raised about eight inches from the sill to permit an unobstructed passage for the bullet, when Goebel should come within range.

Both Chinn and Lillard assert that while the first shot came from the direction of a window in the third story

there were other shots fired from different portions of the same building. The window in the third story was left open, no effort having been made to close it by the would-be assassin, while not another window in the building was opened nor were there any places where bullets had been fired through them.

Whittaker was surrounded by a group of men, many of them with drawn revolvers. He made no attempt to escape, knowing well that the slightest attempt to do so would have brought a dozen bullets into his body. He submitted quietly to the search which was quickly made of his clothing, the proceeds being three revolvers and a big knife.

A quick examination of the revolvers showed that none of the cartridges had been used and there was no powder smoke on any part of his weapons, proving conclusively that he could not have used any of his three revolvers. In addition to this, all those who heard the shots join in the statement that they were from a rifle and not from a small weapon. Whittaker was quickly led away and placed in jail.

"I was on the first floor of the building," he said, "when I heard Governor Taylor tell that man Davis, a capitol policeman, to go over at once to see General Collier. I said I would go with him and that was where I was going. I wanted to know, too, what the shooting was about. When I stepped outside, that man grabbed me and that is all I know and that's a fact."

Few people believe that Whittaker is guilty, but the fact that he was hastily leaving the building from which the shooting was done was enough to make trouble for him.

"That man Davis," to whom Whittaker referred, is Colonel John Davis, custodian of the capitol grounds. His story agrees with that of Whittaker.

"I was just outside of Governor Taylor's office," said Colonel Davis, "when I heard shots and heard Governor Taylor say: 'My God, what have they done?' He called to me at once to go over to the office of Adjutant-General Collier and Whittaker went along. I am positive that he could not have done the shooting. We were at the doors of the building in too short a time for that."

As soon as it was known that the bullet which struck down Goebel had come from the building to the east a group of men gathered in front of the door on the east side. Others ran around to the door on the west side to prevent the escape of anybody from there. Several men attempted to enter the doors from the outside, but were prevented by groups of mountaineers who stood in the doorway. Some of these men held Winchester in their hands and presented an aspect so generally uninviting that no attempt was made to search the building and nobody gained an entrance to it for several minutes after the shooting had been done and the assassin had ample opportunity to escape.

That the shooting of Goebel was the result of a carefully laid plan is without question. The man who did the work had evidently taken his stand at the window which had previously been hauled in order to allow the free passage of the bullet and waited until his victim was in full sight before firing.

"Ever since the influx of the mountaineers last week, a large number of them have been sleeping in the upper part of the state house. It is not known, however, that any of these men did the work or that they had any knowledge of the premeditated crime. There has not so far been discovered the slightest direct evidence pointing to any man and it is not likely now that any will ever be found.

The man who fired the shots took the precaution to conceal his location by using smokeless powder cartridges. Both Chinn and Lillard are men of experience in affairs in which powder smoke is more or less a prominent feature, and both declare that while they could tell the general direction from which the bullets came, they could not guess the spot from which they were fired.

DETAILS OF THE SHOOTING.

Two Shots Fired at Goebel and Four
of His Companions.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 30.—William Goebel was shot and very seriously wounded this morning at 10 minutes after 11 o'clock, while passing through the statehouse yard on his way to the capitol building. Two shots were fired from a rifle, only one of them taking effect. It struck Goebel in the right side, one-third of the distance down from the armpit to the hip.

The ball passed entirely through the body, coming out below the right shoulderblade. It was not thought by the physicians in charge that the wound would prove fatal, unless complications set in. Harland Whittaker, a farmer, from Butler county, Ky., is under arrest, charged with having fired the shots, but he denies he had anything to do with it. Five revolvers were found upon him when he was taken into custody.

Goebel, in company with Colonel Jack Chinn and Warden Lillard, of the Frankfort penitentiary, was walking

FRESH TROUBLE IS THREATENED

Cabinet Orders Naval Fleet Mobilized for Home Duty.

EIGHTH DIVISION HALTED

Ten Thousand Troops Needed in Africa
on Waiting Orders—Inter-
vention May Be Feared.

LONDON, Jan. 31, 4 a. m.—It is now known that the cabinet devoted much of its discussions Saturday to the mobilization of the fleet. Nothing was settled except that until further security to the home coasts has been obtained by naval preparations, the Eighth division will not be sent to South Africa.

Monday the admiralty issued orders that the channel squadron, instead of leaving Portland this week for Gibraltar, as previously directed, shall assemble February 5, off Eddystone, and proceed to Bantary for a fortnight's exercises off the Irish coast, thus keeping in home waters for the time.

This decision to delay the Eighth division at a time when reinforcements are so urgently required may mean either that more troops are not yet available and that the division will embark when the shipping is ready.

The mobilization of the reserve warships, if such a course shall be determined upon, would be of the utmost importance. There is nothing in the intelligence possessed by the public to cause the cabinet's prolonged discussion of this matter and the inference is that the fleet may be mobilized as a general warning to other countries to keep their hands off the Transvaal situation, or that the ministry may have definite knowledge that the neutral powers purpose to take some advantage elsewhere while England is busy in South Africa.

One thing is certain. Ten thousand men all ready to go to South Africa are detained for reasons of which the public has no knowledge. There is talk of 47 military battalions being embodied. These are all of the militia not previously warned.

Such scraps of information as can be gathered regarding the movements of the armies in the field seem to indicate that the relief of Ladysmith has been abandoned for the present and that the concentration of the British for the invasion of the Free State is in progress. In addition to General Kelly Kenna's movement, General Durnan, chief of the Colonials, has arrived at Sterkstroom.

The natives report that three Boer guns have been removed from Spytfontein to Kimberley. The Boers are apparently making special effort to reduce the place quickly.

The Kimberley garrison was safe last Sunday.

BOERS SHELLING KIMBERLEY.

KIMBERLEY, Friday, Jan. 28.—A wholesale bombardment which lasted all day yesterday was resumed this morning. The Boers sent 350 shells into all parts of Kimberley. There were several casualties, including a woman and child.

FEARS FOR BULLER.

Belief in London That the Boers Are
Aiming to Cut Off His Retreat.

NEW YORK, Jan. 30.—A London dispatch to the Evening World today says: Buller's danger is now forcing itself on military experts. The committee of national defense is gravely considering it. Lord Roberts, it is reported, cabled the committee that unless Buller and his forces arrive safely from their present position to the south of the Little Tugela river, they will be in imminent danger of having their communications cut. Lord Roberts has pointed out that Buller has with him an immense transport train, carrying his ammunition and supplies. This interferes with the mobility of his army.

Buller's main force is now about 22 miles from its base at Frere and Cheveley. It is between the Big Tugela river, over which it has retreated, and the Little Tugela river, over which it has to retreat in order to begin marching to its base of supplies. That part of it comprising Lyttleton's brigade may still be on the north side of the Tugela at Pottgieters drift, though it is generally believed that it, too, has retreated over the river. It will take days for Buller's army to get back to its base.

Meantime, the Boers are in force at Colenso, only a few miles away from the river there, and made a reconnaissance of the British camp, apparently with a view of ascertaining the strength of the force which Buller left behind to guard his base and communications. The party that crossed came

in contact with Buller's rear guard, and killed several British.

The reconnaissance showed the purpose on the part of the Boers to cut off Buller. Should they hurl an overwhelming force over the Tugela and crush the British at Cheveley, they would have Buller in a trap.

ALGER COUNSELS NEUTRALITY.

The Ex-Secretary Says It Is Unpatriotic to Stir Up Feeling Over the Boer War.

NEW YORK, Jan. 30.—Russell A. Alger, ex-secretary of war, is at the Waldorf-Astoria. Discussing the South African war and the pro-Boer sentiments expressed by W. J. Bryan, he said last night:

"I think it is both un-American and unpatriotic for any American to attempt to stir up a feeling among the masses either against England or the Boers. The war in South Africa is none of our concern and we should keep our hands off."

"When we had trouble with Spain, Great Britain had no pro or anti-Spanish meetings. She attended to her own business and if she did anything beyond it was to give notice to other nations by implication to let us alone."

"The least that America can do now is to treat Great Britain in 1900 as she treated the United States in 1898."

THEIR DIFFICULT TASK.

England at a Disadvantage in Her Encounters With the Boers.

NEW YORK, Jan. 30.—Speaking of the South African war, Brigadier General J. C. Breckinridge, inspector of the army, said last night:

"The situation is generally what everybody ought to have anticipated when the war began. The English have undertaken the subjugation of a body of God-fearing frontiersmen who know how to take care of themselves in the open and overcome the obstacles of nature and how to handle their weapons and who are as fearless as any white men living."

Besides they are so distant from England that time becomes a matter of first importance and the British government is not getting the same experience it did with our ancestors though probably with greater difficulties in the present case, as the points of assault are farther from the sea coast, which is her channel of communication.

"In our case, at the close of the second war for independence as we used to call it, probably no nation ever had a more instructive battle than the English experienced at New Orleans when they met General Jackson. There they marched directly upon the position assumed by frontiersmen for defense, who withheld their fire until the enemy were near. The Boers pursued similar tactics for I notice they waited until the enemy were within two hundred yards then they opened fire."

"When the English were so far away the Boers, with rare wisdom, for they are the minority as compared with the great power of England, though they were then the majority on the spot, seized the initiative and England has ever since been compelled to respond. Not that she desired to do so, it was and is compulsory. The burghers are a religious race, brought up free and independent and the only way to dominate them is to whip them individually. To capture their capital is of less consequence than if their country were an empire."

NO CHEERS FOR CHAMBERLAIN

His Entry in Parliament Yesterday
Received in Silence.

GOVERNMENT IS ARRAIGNED

Salisbury Counsels House of Lords
to Extricate the Nation From Its
Humiliation and Danger.

LONDON, Jan. 30.—The parliament opened today. The queen's speech was read in both houses.

The entry of the secretary of state for the colonies, Joseph Chamberlain, was not cheered from any part of the House of commons. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the liberal leader, proceeded with a bitter condemnation of his administration and the temper in which he had approached the whole problem, saying the narrowness of the government's provision for military requirements necessitated the hostilities and asserted that its policy made the war probable.

Sir Arthur J. Balfour, the government leader, defended the government's policy.

Lord Salisbury, speaking in the House of Lords, said, "we must join together and exercise all our powers in extricating ourselves from a situation full of humiliation and not free from danger."

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

It is Favorably Commented on by the
Press.

LONDON, Jan. 30.—The Times in an editorial comment upon the forecast of the queen's speech says:

"It is satisfactory to know that further provision will be made for increasing the efficiency of the navy, a duty enjoined by the undisputed hostility of foreign opinion. Obviously it will be practically out of the question to introduce any measures of drastic reform involving large expenditures."

The Times severely reproaches the opposition for "opening the floodgates of controversy," by the Fitzmaurice amendment, which it declares can do no good at the present juncture. It says:

"We hope it is not too late for the opposition to reconsider their decision. No national benefit of any kind could possibly balance the mischief to be done by such a display of divided councils in the face of the country's enemies."

"There is much in the conduct of the government calling for criticism but this is not the proper time."

NO RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

The Committee Has Decided to Bring
In None This Session.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—The river and harbor committee reached a formal determination today not to present any river and harbor bill at the present session of congress.

Suggestions to Astorians FOR BOYS.

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