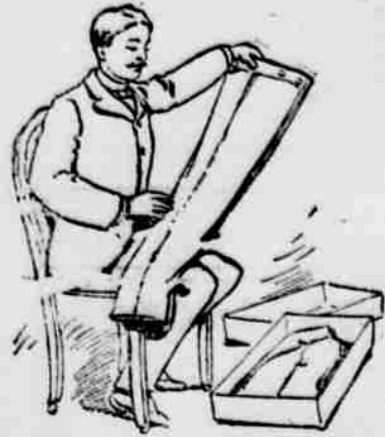


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FRIDAY - - DECEMBER 1, 1899

BATTLE OF MODDER RIVER.

The aggressive force and fighting power of General Methuen's army must have been frightfully impaired by the ordeals it has endured, says the Spokesman-Review. This force is advancing to the relief of Kimberly, which is under siege by the Boers. It has fought three fierce engagements, all of which have been proclaimed as victorious. But the readiness with which the Boers' army has rallied after each battle—first after that of Belmont, and again after that of Gras Pan—fills London with dread misgivings.

After retiring from the battle of Gras Pan, the Boers took up a strong position to the north, at the point where the railroad from Cape Town to Kimberly crosses the Modder river. There the last battle was fought, and General Methuen reports that "it was one of the hardest and most trying fights in the annals of the British army." These are words of terrible significance.

In all this fighting the British have fought at disadvantage. They have found the Boers strongly entrenched on heights of great natural advantage, and there is grave reason to fear that in each engagement the British losses have been much heavier than those of the Boers.

The situation is therefore critical. It looks as if the Boer forces have been handled with remarkable strategical ability. Apparently a sufficient force has been left at Kimberly to prevent the British garrison there from making a sortie to the support of the advancing relief column; and apparently the force sent out to meet the advancing British column has been handled with a view to inflicting severe losses on Gen. Methuen's forces, while avoiding severe losses itself, the plan being to fight from strong positions, and retire before the British could deliver compensating losses.

Ex-President Cleveland has joined the ranks of the expansionists. It will soon be hard to point out any man in the Democracy sticking to the contractionist side who has had any standing in the party except the few wreckers who belong to the Bryanite contingent. "Anti-imperialism" promises, by the time the next election takes place, to be as dead as that other Democratic issue of slavery. Some Democrats saw the drift against slavery before it attained formidable proportions, and left their party. There were many Bourbons like Bryan, however, among the Democrats of half a century ago, who clung to slavery to the end, and went down in the general wreck which overwhelmed that institution. The flag-furlers will be beaten as badly as were the

slaveryites, and fewer tears will be shed for them than were dropped for their progenitors.

Aguinaldo is pretty hard pressed these days. He may elude the troops for a few weeks longer. Possibly he may escape from the island altogether, and go to Asia or Europe. The end in any case, however, will be the same. Most of his army will be captured, and the rest of it will be so thoroughly dispersed that it will never get together again. We presume the government at Washington would not make any especial efforts to head Aguinaldo off if he were trying to escape to the outside world. The prime object is the capture of his army, and this can not be delayed much longer. It is pretty clear, in any event, that the Tagal rebellion is on its last legs, despite the aid it got and expected still to get from the great party whose victory in the recent elections all the Filipino rebels prayed for.

Brave Men Fall

Victims to stomach, liver and kidney troubles as well as women, and all feel the results in loss of appetite, poisons in the blood, backache, nervousness, headache and tired, listless, run-down feeling. But there's no need to feel like that. Listen to J. W. Gardner, Idaville, Ind. He says: "Electric Bitters are just the thing for a man when he is all run down, and don't care whether he lives or dies. It did more to give me new strength and good appetite than anything I could take. I can now eat anything and have a new lease on life." Only 50 cents, at Blakeley & Houghton's drug store. Every bottle guaranteed. 3

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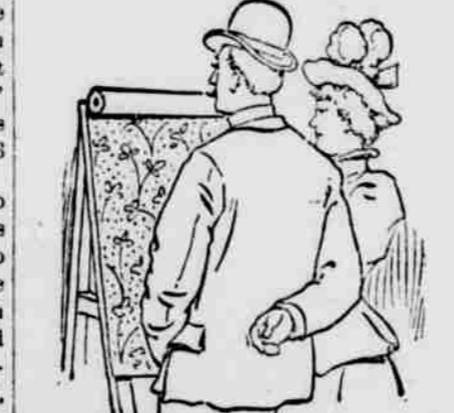
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8 p. m. Ex. Sunday 10 p. m.	Columbia Rv. Steamers To Astoria and Way Landings.	4 p. m. Ex. Sunday
6 a. m. Ex. Sunday	WILLAMETTE RIVER. Oregon City, Newberg, Salem & Way Land s.	4:30 p. m. Ex. Sunday
7 a. m. Tues. Thur. and Sat.	WILLAMETTE AND YAM-HILL RIVERS. Oregon City, Dayton, and Way-Landings.	3:30 p. m. Mon. Wed and Fri.
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