

# GOLD HILL NEWS.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

GOLD HILL, OREGON.

## THE NEWS OF THE WEEK

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

Hepburn believes the house will pass the canal bill.

General Buller cables that he thinks he is making progress.

The news of the success of the Mexican troops is confirmed.

The second detachment of London volunteers has left for the cape.

Count and Countess Castellane, nee Gould, have arrived in New York.

The United Mineworkers voted down a resolution of sympathy for the Boers.

John Raskin, the great art critic and writer, passed away in his 81st year at London.

General James F. Wade has taken temporary charge of the department of the lakes.

Motormen and conductors of Troy, N. Y., are out for more wages and shorter hours.

A deadly quarrel in the Italian quarter of New York resulted in the killing of three of one family.

The Baldwin locomotive works, of Philadelphia, has received an order for 80 large locomotives from France.

Danish farmers have sent the Princess of Wales 12,000 boxes of choice butter for the British soldiers in Africa.

The reason for the close censorship is now being appreciated in London, and the people are willing to await the results.

An Indiana volunteer, writing home, says that Joe Wheeler gave tired soldiers his horse and, taking their gun, marched with the boys.

Owing to dangers threatening the commonwealth of Frankfurt, Ky., clergymen set aside Tuesday as a day of humiliation and prayer.

Rev. Mr. Sheldon will have absolute control of all departments of the Topeka (Kan.) Capital for one week, when he will demonstrate how a Christian daily should be conducted and edited.

The 16th annual report of the United States civil service commission has been presented to the president. It shows an increase in the number of persons employed and more examinations of applicants last year than in any previous year of the commission.

The Ashland woolen mills, one of the oldest industrial establishments in Oregon, representing an invested capital of over \$65,000, and regularly employing 30 to 35 hands was totally destroyed by fire, which is supposed to have originated in the weaving room. The insurance amounted to \$13,500.

Senator Gear was re-elected in Iowa. New York has let a contract for another subway to cost \$35,000,000.

Many Americans will be needed in the government plants for the Filipinos.

Robert M. McWade has been appointed to succeed Dr. Bedloe as consul at Canton.

The Farmers' Alliance wants the proposed ship subsidy money spent for export bounties.

Boers attacked French's advanced post and were repulsed with 20 killed and 50 wounded.

Landlord Whitten, of Skagway, fell from the gangplank of a steamer at Seattle and was drowned.

Over 20,000 drivers of all kinds of vehicles are on strike in Rio Janeiro. Troops were called out to maintain order.

Great floods of \$1,000 bills are said to have been a prominent feature in the campaign of Senator Clark of Montana.

Thomas B. Reed says he finds selfishness is master of the human race and the world must work to better conditions of the people.

In the senate Senator Pettigrew declared that "the blood of every soldier who has fallen since the war began is on the hands of the administration."

Miss Helen Gould has given \$50,000 to aid in the building of the new home for the naval branch of the Young Men's Christian Association in Brooklyn.

The special committee of the house to investigate the case of Roberts of Utah, finds that Roberts had three wives. It is said he will not be allowed to remain in congress and a majority favors not allowing him to be seated at all.

Kosciusko's friend and close associate, Haym Salomon, will be given a medal by congress. His relatives claim that he loaned this country money during the revolutionary war and it was never repaid. The medal is a compromise of their claim.

## LATER NEWS.

A majority of the senators is against the seating of Quay.

Another revolutionary plot in Venezuela has been nipped in the bud.

Millions in war munitions were imported through Delagoa bay by the Boers.

A Boer patrol, mistaking signals, was badly cut up by a hot fire from a British kopje.

The headquarters of Generals White and Hunter was smashed by a shot from a "Long Tom."

Despite reports to the contrary, Webster Davis is to be retained as assistant secretary of the interior.

The steamer Townsend, plying between Seattle and Alaskan points, is a total loss near Haine's Mission.

Montagu White will be received as the consular and diplomatic representative of the South African republic.

Secretary Root has issued an order appointing a complete new board of ordnance, with the exception of General Miles.

Governor Gage will call an extra session of the California legislature. A United States senator will probably be elected.

Captain I. Friedman, who died in San Francisco recently, left three-quarters of his fortune, amounting to \$750,000, to charity.

The new ships now being built for the Oceanic Steamship Company will be without peers in the Pacific, and will greatly improve the service.

Matt Hilstrom, who killed Luke Mooers, the Clatsop county logger, was adjudged insane. The evidence showed the insanity to be hereditary.

The overdue City of Seattle, has been reported from Juneau, where she was towed by the Cottage City. The Seattle's delay was caused by the breaking of her propeller.

The transport Pennsylvania, which sails from San Francisco, will carry funds for paying off the United States troops now in the Philippines. About \$1,250,000 will be taken.

The captain and crew of 24 of the British steamer Sutton, which went ashore on Fenwick shoals, in Delaware bay, have arrived in Philadelphia. It is believed the Sutton will prove a total loss.

In the senate Pettigrew offered a resolution calling on the president to send the senate the report of General Bates relating to the treaty with the sultan of Sulu. Among other things the resolution asks whether the sultan and his officials are under the civil service.

The courting of rabbits was stopped in Chicago by humane officers.

In a great battle which lasted all day Sunday the Boers held their own.

Mines at Johannesburg have made impregnable that city from an attacking force.

Methodist missionaries will begin active work in the Philippines to convert the Tagals.

Count Boni de Castellane says he is going to use his cane on the editor of the Paris Figaro.

The pope warmly praises the work of an endowment for a Catholic university at Washington.

The Duke of Teck is dead at London. He died from pneumonia after an illness of several days.

The sugar war is to be continued on the same lines as heretofore, and no settlement is in sight.

At Butte, Mont., Dominick Massa, a painter, mounted a ladder to paint a building. He grabbed a live wire and fell dead.

Colonel George M. Randall and Colonel James Bell, have been named by the president for promotion to the rank of brigadier-general.

George D. Herron, formerly professor of Iowa college, says that the effect of socialism on religious dogma will be to change the whole attitude of human belief.

Half a million dollars is the estimated cost of repairing the Olympia according to the report of the naval construction board. The work will be done at the Boston navy-yard, and will occupy about a year.

According to the New York Herald's Washington correspondent there is an excellent prospect that the Nicaragua canal bill will go through this session without waiting for the report of the Walker commission.

Mrs. Annie Ellsworth Smith is dead at New York. She sent the first telegraphic message, "What hath God wrought?" from the United States supreme court room, Washington, to Baltimore.

Two negroes were shot to death and two white men desperately wounded as the result of an attempt to arrest a negro murderer at Macon, Ga. J. H. Butler, colored, is the man who did most of the shooting, and who was himself shot to death.

A long-time resident of South Africa, now in New York, says the Boers are not brave; that they will fight from cover, but in the open, man to man, the Boer is no match for the Briton, or other white antagonist. He predicts the British will win soon.

## JOHNSON'S VICTORY AT TAAL

### Defeated Force of Eight Hundred Insurgents.

## MARIETTA SHELLED THE PLACE

### General Schwan's Troops Entered Santa Cruz, Finding the Rebels Had Abandoned the Town.

Manila, Jan. 24.—Two companies of the Forty-sixth infantry, under Major Johnson, and three companies of the Thirty-eighth infantry, commanded by Major Muir, defeated 800 insurgents at Taal, province of Batangas, Saturday, taking the town. The gunboat Marietta also shelled the place. The insurgents had four cannon, two of which were captured. Two Americans were wounded, and 10 dead insurgents were found on the field.

The plague statistics now show a total of 14 cases and 11 deaths.

### Americans Occupy Santa Cruz.

Manila, Jan. 24.—The Americans have occupied Santa Cruz, on Laguna de Bay, Laguna province. It was reported many insurgents were concentrated there, but the town was found deserted.

The military regulation requiring the streets to be cleared of natives at 8:30 P. M. has been changed to 10 o'clock.

### The Official Report.

Washington, Jan. 24.—General Otis informs the war department of recent military operations in the Philippines in the following dispatch:

"Manila, Jan. 24.—Major Johnson, commanding a battalion of the Forty-sixth infantry, General Wheaton's brigade, reports from Lemer on the 18th and 20th inst. that he drove the enemy through Batayan, eastward, on the morning of the 18th, capturing 17 rifles and one field piece. A few hours later, in Calaca, he captured four prisoners, four horses and equipments, six rifles, and killed three insurgents. He advanced toward Lemer that afternoon, captured the enemy's outpost, three men and six horses.

"He advanced again at 5 P. M., and, finding the enemy strongly entrenched, sent by a navy gunboat to Batangas for assistance. Three companies of Muir's battalion of the Thirty-eighth infantry were sent to Taal, the insurgent headquarters. Johnson drove the enemy through Lemer on to Taal, where he attacked the southern portion of the city and Muir the northern portion. The enemy dispersed, retreating in many directions. Johnson's casualties were one killed, one seriously and two slightly wounded. Four field pieces and a quantity of rifles were captured.

"This movement of Johnson's was ably conducted, and important in results.

"The enemy is reported in large force and entrenched at and near Santa Cruz, Laguna de Bay. General Schwan is swinging his troops on that point, his left at the town of the Bay, a few miles east of Calamba, his right consisting of cavalry at the right of Tayabas."

## FOR TAGAL AND BOER.

### Senator Turner Arranged the Administration's Policy.

Washington, Jan. 24.—This was another day of oratory in the senate, little beyond routine business being transacted. Pritchard delivered a long and carefully prepared address on the race question in the South, his remarks being addressed particularly to the proposed amendment to the constitution of North Carolina, which, if enacted, he said, would disfranchise a large mass of voters, both white and black.

He was followed by Turner, of Washington, in a speech on the Philippine question, in which he arraigned the administration's policy as set out in the president's message, and the speech of Beveridge. Turner was given close attention by his colleagues.

The house was in session only 40 minutes today, and nothing of public importance was done except to refer to the speaker for settlement a dispute between the appropriations and military affairs committees over jurisdiction of the estimates for the appropriations for the manufacture of small arms at the Rock Island and Springfield arsenals. A few District of Columbia bills of minor importance were passed.

## Election of Senators.

Washington, Jan. 24.—The report filed today on the house bill for election of United States senators by the people reviews the arguments made in favor of this change and refers to the unfortunate conditions which have occurred in Kentucky, Idaho, Delaware and other states under the present system. The bill, as reported, leaves it discretionary with the legislature to continue the present system or adopt the system of choice by the people.

## To Reconsider Samoan Treaty Votes.

Washington, Jan. 24.—In the executive session of the senate today Jones, of Arkansas, gave notice that at the next executive session he would call up his motion to reconsider the vote on which the Samoan treaty was ratified.

## POLYGAMIST'S FATE.

### Opening of the Debate in the Roberts Case.

Washington, Jan. 25.—This has been an oratorical field day in the house over the case of Brigham H. Roberts, the Mormon representative from Utah. The galleries were packed to suffocation, chiefly with women, and the spectators, after listening attentively to the arguments of Taylor of Ohio and Littlefield of Maine for the adoption of the majority and minority reports, respectively, of the special committee that investigated the case, remained long after nightfall to hear the impassioned words of the accused as he faced the house, like an animal at bay, knowing that every hand was raised against him.

Roberts was very adroit in the handling of his case and at times exceedingly dramatic. Taking advantage of the issue raised by the division in the committee as to the method of ousting him, he appropriated to himself the argument of the minority that he was constitutionally entitled to be sworn in, and the argument of the majority that once sworn in, he could not be expelled. He defended the action of the Mormons in fighting the authority of the United States for years, because, he said, they believed that sentiment would change, and dramatically stated that in those days he had rather have his flesh hewn from his bones than to have renounced his religious tenets. He concluded with an eloquent peroration, in which he said he had never been conscious of a shameful act, and if he was sent forth he would go with head erect and undaunted brow.

Strange to say, most of the applause he won was from women. But while they appeared to be his only partisans, other women manifested their bitter hostility by hissing him at every opportunity.

## Turner and Ross.

Again today the senate's session was devoted entirely to speechmaking. Turner of Washington concluded his address upon the Philippine question. He was followed by Ross of Vermont with a thoughtful and carefully prepared speech, in which he also discussed resolutions which he had offered. His presentation of the question was given thoughtful attention by his colleagues. McEnery of Louisiana delivered the concluding speech of the session on the race question in the South. He took strong grounds in support of the constitution of Louisiana, and of the proposed amendment to the constitution of North Carolina, which it is alleged will disfranchise a large class of voters.

## ARRESTED FOR CONSPIRACY.

### Wealthy Venezuelan Plotted Against the Government.

New York, Jan. 25.—Advices from Caracas, Venezuela, announce the imprisonment there of Manuel A. Mattos, who was minister of finance under President Andrade, and is one of Venezuela's wealthiest men, by order of President Castro, on the charge of conspiracy against the government. Documents found in his possession show that he was in communication with General Jose Manuel Hernandez, the rebel leader.

A few weeks ago an export firm of this city received from Senor Mattos an order for 20,000 Mauser rifles and 5,000,000 cartridges. It was presumed at the time that they were for the Venezuela government. His arrest, however, has caused the belief that the war supplies meant were for the use of the revolutionists.

Senor Mattos is well known here and was at one time a member of the firm of Scholtz, Sanchez & Co., of this city.

## FLAMES RAN HIGH.

### Standard Oil Company's Warehouse at Portland Was Consumed.

Portland, Or., Jan. 25.—What threatened to be the most destructive fire in years raged all yesterday afternoon in the warehouse of the Standard Oil Company, on East Water street, near the Madison-street bridge, and was brought under control toward night with a loss of about \$20,000. That the flames did not communicate to the immense oil tanks whose sides they almost licked, explode them and set millions of dollars' worth of property on fire, is solely due to the almost superhuman efforts of the fire department, who, in the face of what for a time appeared to be suicidal, stood at their posts and fought the fire with an energy that was only equaled by their heroism.

## "Open Door" Assured.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The success of the negotiations instituted by Secretary Hay with a view of insuring an "open door" for American trade in China may now be regarded as assured. The last phase of the negotiations was the reduction of the arrangements reached informally to the shape of what are known as definite notes. This work has been going on for some weeks, with the result that every one of the powers that participated in the negotiations has returned to the state department this written agreement, with the exception of Japan and Italy. There is not the slightest doubt in these cases, for Japan was one of the first of the nations approached by the United States to welcome our overtures, while Italy voluntarily entered the negotiations, without waiting for advances from the United States.

## MONTAGU WHITE RECEIVED

### Granted an Audience by the Secretary of State.

## AN HOUR WITHOUT INTERRUPTION

### Acknowledged His Visit to This Country Is to Work Up Sympathy Among Americans for the Boer Cause.

Washington, Jan. 25.—Montagu White, consul-general of the South African Republic in London, called at the state department this afternoon and had a conference with Secretary Hay. At the beginning he put himself on a safe footing by informing the secretary that he had no credentials and no official character whatever. He frankly admitted, however, that he was in the United States for the purpose of aiding his countrymen to enlist the sympathy of the American people. The secretary accorded him an hour's audience without interruption.

## AT A STANDSTILL.

### Buller Is Unable to Make Further Headway.

London, Jan. 25.—Contrary to the announcement made shortly before midnight by the war office that nothing further would be issued, the following dispatch from General Buller, dated Spearman's, January 24, 6:50 P. M., has just been posted:

"Warren holds the position he gained two days ago. In front of him, at about 1,400 yards, is the enemy's position, west of Spionkop. It is on higher ground than Warren's position, so it is impossible to see into properly.

"It can be approached only over bare open slopes, and the ridges held by Warren are so steep that guns cannot be placed on them. But we are shelling the enemy's position with howitzers and field artillery, placed on lower ground behind infantry.

"The enemy is replying with Creusot and other artillery. In this duel, the advantage rests with us, as we appear to be searching his trenches, and his artillery fire is not causing us much loss.

"An attempt will be made to seize Spionkop, the salient of which forms the enemy's position facing Trichard's and which divides it from the position facing Potgieter's drift. It has considerable command over all the enemy's entrenchments."

General Buller's great turning movement of which so much was expected, has come to a standstill. His carefully worded message to the war office telling this, after a silence of two days, reads like an apology and an explanation. General Warren holds the ridges, but the enemy's positions are higher. The British artillery is playing on the Boer positions and the Boers are replying. The British infantry is separated by only 1,400 yards from the enemy, but an approach to the steep slopes, across the bare open, would expose the British to a fatal rifle fire.

General Buller's plans have reached their development. He declines to send his infantry across this zone against formidable positions by daylight, and disclosed his purpose to assault the Spionkop heights during the night. This appears to be the key to the Boer defenses. If he takes it and thus commands the adjacent country, an important and possibly decisive step will be accomplished.

## Ordnance Board Reorganized.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The secretary of war issued an order today almost entirely reorganizing the board of ordnance. General Miles, who is ex-officio chairman, is the only member of the former board retained. New members are: Brigadier-General John M. Wilson, chief of engineers; Brigadier-General W. R. Buffington, chief of ordnance; Colonel John I. Rogers, of the Fifth artillery, and Thomas J. Henderson, of Illinois.

Mr. Henderson, who is the only civilian on the board, succeeds Mr. Thomas J. Outhwaite, of Ohio. The military members of the board who have been relieved from further services are Colonel R. T. Frank, formerly of the First artillery, retired; Captain Charles B. Wheeler, of the ordnance department, and Captain Joseph E. Kuhl, corps of engineers.

It is said that there is no special significance in the action of the secretary of war in this matter beyond a desire to recognize the supreme importance of the board which is charged with the duty of protecting our extensive sea coast from foreign attack, and to include in its membership the best military talent possible under existing conditions of the service.

## Alaska Land Office Changes.

Washington, Jan. 25.—Commissioner Hermann, of the general land office, has recommended that the two land offices in Alaska be abolished and one established. The effect of this will be to place Western Alaska in two districts instead of three. By this arrangement the offices at Peavy, on the Koyuk river, and at Circle City, on the Yukon, will be discontinued and an office at St. Nicholas will be created. The office at Rampart City will remain.