EUGENE WEEKLY GUARD.

CAMPBELL BROS., Proprietors.

EUGENE ..... OREGON.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

An Interesting Collection of Items From the Two Hemispheres Presented in a Condensed Form.

Hay may resign if the canal treaty is amended.

Lord Roberts was given an ovation at Cape Town.

The United States wants Chiriqui for a coaling station.

There is little change in the Santa Fe strike situation.

Charles A. Towne was sworn in as senator from Minnesota.

The house passed the legislative, executive and judicial bill.

The tension between Holland and Portugal is increasing.

Benjamin Wise was held at Salem, Or., for arson at Silverton.

A house Republican caucus decided to stand by the war-tax bill.

The sultan of Turkey dined officers of the battle-ship Kentucky.

Von Bulow explained why Emperor William would not receive Kruger.

Erection of poles and wires for another lighting system began in Salem, Or.

Four men were killed by an explosion in the Union Pacific tunnel at Aspen.

Attacks on Salisbury and Chamberlain were made in the British house of commons.

Only $600,000 can be obtained from this session of congress for the Columbia jetty.

The Oregon supreme court upholds the street improvement section of the Portland city charter.

The Idaho supreme court decides that patented mining property is to be regarded the same as other realty for purposes of taxation.

The Austrian corvette Donau has arrived at Lima, Peru, bringing Bela Bakoweghy, commissioner of the Austrian government, who is visiting the consulates of South America.

A special from Shanghai announces that Li Hung Chang's Manchu secretary, Yoko, has been arrested by order of Field Marshal Count von Waldersee, on the charge of communicating with the Boxers.

The third annual cowboy and Indian carnival opened in Phoenix, Arizona, with a great parade of vaqueros, red men and Chinese. After the parade, in a wild dash through the streets, an Indian was thrown from his horse and fatally trampled under foot.

Germans are still excited over the Kruger incident.

The Oregon school fund losses an average of $40,000 a year.

The river and harbor committee is cutting down all estimates.

The Philippines commission has prepared a tariff for the islands.

The execution of Yu Hsien is certain whenever envoys demand it.

The Chinese question is again said to be approaching a settlement.

Fifty-two Filipino prisoners have been taken by American troops.

Eulogies were pronounced in the house on the late Representative Harmer.

Russia says all credit for securing existing entente belongs to United States.

Johannesburg will be fenced around with barb wire to cut off Boers' food supply.

United States Consul Goodnow, at Shanghai, will return home on leave of absence.

Netherlands disavows responsibility for sympathetic letter of minister to Kruger.

Senate will devote the present week to Hay-Pauncefote treaty and ship subsidy bill.

The naval appropriation bill will provide for two more battleships and two cruisers.

Delegate Wilcox, of Hawaii, strongly opposes importation of negro labor into the islands.

Envoys take removal of General Tung Fu Hsiang to mean that government desires peace.

Establishment of ship subsidy bill as regular order will displace Nicaragua canal measure.

Bills for the reduction of war revenue tax and legislative appropriations will likely pass the house this week.

Robert W. Wilcox, Hawaii's delegate-elect to congress, has arrived in San Francisco, enroute to Washington.

Kruger was officially received by Queen Wilhelmina. The queen has promised to show her friendship when the proper moment arrives.

Five editors were chosen to sit in the Nebraska legislature at the recent election.

Joseph Manley has resigned as chairman of the Republican executive committee of Maine after a service of 16 years.

Electric coal-cutting machinery is rapidly displacing hand work and other varieties of mechanical mining appliances in the collieries of Great Britain and the United States.

Missouri will have the largest Democratic delegation in the next congress of the United States.

The city of Downs, Kansas, has more than 1,000 inhabitants, among whom there is not a single lawyer.

The fourth census of the Dominion of Canada is to be taken next year, beginning the first week in April.

When the newly elected governors of the states have been all inaugurated there will be 26 Republican, 18 Democratic and one Silverite, the last being Reinhold Sadler, of Nevada.

LATER NEWS.

The powers have agreed to the joint note.

The Japanese gave Admiral Beardslee a reception.

Chicago police will prevent the Gans-McGovern fight.

Santa Fe strikers wish their differences arbitrated.

Five persons were killed in a train wreck in Montana.

Fire in Pekin destroyed the quarters of a number of officers.

Kitchener rpeorts a running fight between Dewet and Knox.

Gompers will be re-elected president of the Federation of Labor.

The Santa Fe repudiates its relations with the telegraphers' union.

The American fleet in North China waters is reduced to two vessels.

The Irish Nationalist convention declared for the abolition of landlordism.

Washington's centennial anniversary was celebrated with imposing ceremonies.

Full particulars have been received of the tyhoon which recently swept the coast of China, causing a heavy loss to life and shipping.

There are more than 40 cases of smallpox in St. George's hospital, Kansas City. Only one death from the disease has occurred.

The city election at Astoria, resulted in a sweeping victory for the Citizens' ticket, every candidate being elected by large majorities.

The dock laborers at Callao, Peru, have gone on a strike, and all work has been stopped. As yet there has been no breach of the peace.

Jospeph Benoit, a stage carpenter at the Grand Opera house, Salem, Or., fell from a scaffold, breaking several ribs and bruising his face and body badly. The accident was caused by the breaking of a board upon which he was standing.

The Lakeview and Ager stage was robbed about two miles from Lakeview, Or. A lone highwayman accomplished the job. No passengers were aboard of the stage. Two mail sacks were rifled and a considerable amount of registered mail taken. Officers are now working on the case.

The will of the late Senator Davis, who died November 27, was filed for probate by Mrs. Anna M. Davis, the widow. The will, made during the senator's last illness, leaves all his estate to Mrs. Davis. The estate is valued at $25,000 in personal and $40,000 in real property.

Affairs at Guam are in better shape.

Lord Roberts has left the Cape for Enlgand.

Holland refuses to intervene in the Boer war.

Senator Clay spoke against the ship subsidy bill.

French troops have ceased looting Chinese observatories.

Li Hung Chang claims to have absolute power to negotiate.

Chaffee protested to Von Waldersee against German looting.

The debate on the war tax reduction bill began in the house.

The house of commons voted £16,000,000 to carry on the Boer war.

The Hay-Pauncefote treaty was again considered in executive session.

A congressional committee was appointed to investigate the Booz hazing.

The Philippine commission gave merchants a hearing on the tariff bill.

A $50,000 irrigation ditch will be constructed at once in Moxee valley, Washington.

Oregon delegation decides upon continuing contract for Columbia river improvement.

State Superintendent Ackerman recommends that Oregon schools observe John Marshall day.

The matter of developing Lower Nehalem coal is said to have been considered in New York.

In his annual report, Fish Commissioner Reid says value of fish output for Oregon is over $3,000,000.

A number of persons suspected of ploting to murder Lord Roberts during his visit to Cape Colony recently, abandoned their schemes on learning that they were shadowed.

Outlawry in Kwang Si and Kwang Tnung is increasing. The officials appear to be losing their hold of the situation and are powerless to restore order. Pirating on the West river is increasing.

Owing to a lack of proper facilities in the way of telegraph, caused by the strike, a serious collision occurred on the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, in which several persons were probably fatally injured.

Cornelius L. Alvord, Jr., ex-note teller of the First National bank of New York, accused of having embezzled $690,000 from that institution, was indicted by the United States grand jury. The indictment was found on 51 counts charging Alvord with fasifying the accounts of the bank and unlawfully appropriating to his own use nearly $700,000 of the bank's money.

Prairie chickens are said to be more anundant in western Kansas than for years.

During the past five years the state of Pennsylvania has purchased more than 100,000 acres of land to be issued as a forestry reservation.

Former Ambasador to Italy W. F. Draper has been decorated with the order of SS. Maurice and Cazal by the king of Italy, for services during his embassy to Rome.

A wide awake American has erected steam pumps on the Jordan and is supplying churches all over Europe with genuine Jordan water.

The boundary line between the United States and Mexico has recently been resurveyed and marked by stone monuments in the form of obelisks about five miles apart.

There are 22 counties in Montana, three of which, Chotau and Dawson, on the Canadian border, and Custer county, on the North Dakota border, make up one-half of the area of the state.

HIS LAST HOPE GONE

Kruger Gets No Consolation From The Netherlands.

HOLLAND WILL NOT INTERVENE EITHER

The Dutch Foreign Minister Tells the Ex-President That the Role of His Government Must Be Passive.

The Hague, Dec. 13.—The Dutch government today finally and definitely refused to take the initiative in behalf of arbitration between the Transvaal and Great Britain.

The decision was communicated in an interview between Mr. Kruger and Dr. Leyds on one side and the Dutch foreign minister and Minister of Finance N. B. Pierson, on the other. Mr. Kruger explained that the object of his journey was to disseminate the idea of arbitration, and the Dutch minister replied that the role of the Netherlands must be passive. The initiative belonged to the great powers, he added. When the powers had reached a decision, the Dutch government might see what it could do.

No Snub Yet From Czar.

The Hague, Dec. 13.—The Transvaal legation says it is authorized to contradict the report that Emperor Nicholas has telegraphed to Mr. Kruger an intimation that he will not receive him.

DECIDE ON COURSE.

How the Oregon Delegation Would Improve the Columbia.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The three members of the Oregon delegation, at an informal meeting today, decided to concentrate their efforts to have the improvement of the mouth of the Columbia made a continuing contract rather than trust to the future to secure successive appropriations to be expended as needed. By this method, which seems to be the best under the circumstances, the final completion of the project is insured, and work may be conducted without unnecessary delay.

The river and harbor committee has not yet finally decided on what provision will be made for this project, but $600,000, recommended by the engineers, is the outside limit.

OFFICERS WERE LAX.

Prisoner Quietly Arose and Walked Out of the Courtroom.

Spokane, Dec. 13. — While Judge Marshall was holding a preliminary hearing of Edward Hanson, charged with counterfeiting, this afternoon the prisoner quietly arose and sneaked out of the courtroom. Owing to the small courtroom being crowded, the escape was not noticed until the judge turned to announce that the prisoner would be held to a higher court. Officers started in pursuit of Hanson, who was treking for the river. A few shots from revolvers and he gave himself up.

The escape was the boldest ever known in the city. Hanson is one of a trio recently arrested with bogus money in their possession. Search of their cabin resulted in finding of molds and other tools.

Credentials Refused.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The senate has refused the credentials of W. A. Clark and Maginnis, contesting senators from the state of Montana, to the committee on privileges and elections. A debate, reopening the Clark case, occurred upon the motion of Senator Chandler to recommit the resolution declaring the seat from Montana vacant. After a short but interesting debate, the matter of recommittal, by consent, went over until Thursday.

Counterfeiter Captured.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 13.—Edmund Hansen, alias H. Larkee, believed to be the leader of the gang of counterfeiters operating here, has been captured. Hansen was a bridge watchman for the Great Northern. In his shack were found counterfeiter's molds and letters ordering gold and silver bullion. Near by in a cache in the rocks many stolen articles were found. Hansen protests complete ignorance.

Saloons Were Open Sunday.

Chehalis, Wash., Dec. 13.—Four Chehalis saloonkeepers pleaded guilty in the superior court to the charge of keeping their places open Sunday. Two Centralia men have been convicted. All were fined $30 apiece, and all other cases of that nature now pending against them were dropped.

Passed Raised Bills.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 13. — Two Japanese, Hanay Sato and Mantoka Hamaguchi, were arrested this morning, charged with uttering raised bills. A number of raised bills have been in circulation here, in each case the utterer, a Japanese, claiming that he was the innocent recipient of the raised notes from a fellow-countryman.

Dewet and Knox Still Fighting.

London, Dec. 13. — The Evening Standard says that the battle between General Knox and General Dewet continues, and that the forces exchanged ground incessantly. Lack of definite information is said to be due to the absence of telegraphic communication with the scene of action. While the war office is most reticent on the subject, there are indications that the officials have received news suggesting considerable British success.

Fatal Cave-In.

Marysvile, Cal., Dec. 13. — One man, Albert Cornelius, was killed and three injured as the result of a cave-in on the 1500-foot level of the Pennsylvania mine today. The injured are: John Barrett, Nelson Houck and George Johnson.

Major James Converse Dead.

Abilene, Tex., Dec. 13. — Major James Converse, widely known throughout the Southwest, died today, aged 71 years. He built the Southern Pacfic railroad through Texas.

HONG KONG TYPHOON.

Particulars of a Great Storm in South China—Loss of Life Heavy.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 14. — The steamer Emress of India, which arrived today after a stormy passage, brought news of the great typhoon which ravaged Hong Kong, November 10, causing a heavy loss of life and shipping. The British gunboat Sandpiper foundered and some of her seamen were lost. The American ship Benjamin Sewell went ashore, and in all 77 steam launches were wrecked, and over 200 natives drowned. At Kowloon and other points there was also very heavy loss. The Empress of India was at her wharf at Kowloon and she was badly shaken.

The troops fared very badly. The temporary barracks collapsed completely and the Indian and European troops had to seek refuge wherever they could. In Kowloon proper a number of houses were blown down, others lost their roofs and were otherwise damaged. A new stone block near the torpedo depot was practically laid in ruins. The whole upper part was blown down, as was also the upper story of the telegraph exchange at Kowloon.

Of the British warships anchored at Kowloon the gunboats Warren, Firebrand, Tweed and Sandpiper were dragging their anchors. Those on shore could do nothing but stand by with buoys and lines to render assistance should the vessels drift ashore. The vessels fired distress signals and one or two flew their pennants at half-mast. The gunboat Sandpiper was in the worst fix, as she was rapidly filling. Then from Hong Kong way came the Otter, the crew of which at great risk rescued the whole crew with the exception of one man.

At daylight Saturday the powerful dredger Canton River, which recently arrived here from Paisley, almost without any warning listed to port and capsized. As to the precise number of those on board at the time it is impossible to give any accurate figures. Those in authority at the dockyard extension office say that 50 would be about the number. It is known that Captain Scott, who was in command of her, was aboard, also Chief Engineer White, Second Engineer Thompson, Carpenter McIlroy and the majority of the crew. The men clung to the upturned vessel, where they were seen, and 12 were rescued by boats from the steamers Tamar and Astroea. The Benjamin Sewell went ashore opposite the arsenal yard but got off, though leaking badly.

Several buildings collapsed at Queen's road, killing eight Chinese and injuring eight. Westward, at Kennedy town, great damage was also caused, and at Kowloon numberless sampans were wrecked. Here P. C. Duncan, of the navy yard police, lost his life in a gallant attempt to rescue two sampan women whose boat was dashed to pieces against the embankment at the naval depot. Duncan was an old Ninety-ninth Argyle and Sutherland Highlander, and had been away from home since 1896.

WRECK IN MONTANA.

Five Passengers Were Killed in a Great Northern Accident.

Great Falls, Mont., Dec. 14.—Great Northern passenger train No. 3, westbound, was wrecked about 4 o'clock this morning near Brockton, 81 miles east of Glasgow. Five passengers are reported killed and many injured. The cause of the wreck is said to have been a broken rail. Railroad officials here claim not to have any information of the accident.

Later information states that the train was running about 45 miles an hour, making up lost time, when a truck broke down while passing a switch. The engine and three cars passed over in safety, but the next four pitched over an embankment. Three sleepers remained on the rails. The bodies have been taken to Glasgow, where the inquests will be held.

Tortured by Small Boys.

San Jose, Cal., Dec. 14.—Alfred Kern, a 10-year-old boy, was caught by three young boys this afternoon as he was on his way home from a kindergarten school and subjected to a terrible torture with burning matches. His face was burned almost beyond recognition, and his condition is regarded as serious. The police are searching for his assailants, who have thus far succeeded in escaping.

Pioneer Telegrapher Dead.

New York, Dec. 14.— Robert L. Tige, who established the first telegraphic system in South America, is dead at his home here. He was born in Dublin. At the outbreak of the civil war he enlisted in the Fortieth New York regiment. In 1866 he entered the employ of Adrain C. Morse and went to Chile and Peru, where he established telegraphic systems. For 18 years he had resided in this city.

King Milan to Marry Again.

London, Dec. 14.—The Vienna correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says a rumor is in cierulation in the Austrian capital that ex-King Milan is about to become engaged to Miss Atzel, an American heiress.

New Gold Field Discovered.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 13.—A special to the Chronicle from Nelson, Wash., brings news of a stampede up Fourth of July creek, a branch of the Kettle river. Shot gold has been discovered with ground running $10 to the cubic yard. Diggings in that vicinity have been secretly worked by George Arnett, an old miner, for three or four years. It is estimated that he has cleaned up $10,000.

Sawmill Burned.

Astoria, Or., Dec. 14.—Word was received here today that the lumber mill of A. J. Palm, at Palm station, on the Astoria & Columbia River railway, about one-half mile west of Clatskanie, was totally destroyed by fire. A telephone message was received by Chief Stockton, asking that a fire engine be sent to assist in saving the lumber yard and adjoining property. A fire engine was loaded on a car, but before the train was ready to pull out word was received that the fire was under control.

WILL VISIT EUROPE

Steyn Is Going North to Help Oom Paul.

GENERAL BOTHA MAKES ANNOUNCEMENT

Schalkenberger Sworn In as Acting State President—Rumor in London of a Serious Defeat to British Arms.

New York, Dec. 15.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from Amsterdam says:

The following proclamation by General Louis Botha has been received:

"Whereas, I have been informed that the enemy circulates all sorts of wrong and lying reports among the burghers about the government and myself, our officers and officials are charged to communicate the following information to the general public: The executive council, after consulting the president of the Orange Free State, has decided in the interests of our cause to give leave of absence to our state president, with orders to go immediately to Europe in order to assist our deputation there in the work they have before them. Vice-President Schalkenberger has been sworn in, according to law, and is now acting as state president. He is now assisted by the state secretary, two members of the executive council, Lucas Meyer and myself, and other officials, in short our government exists in the same way as before and is now in my immediate neighborhood and in direct communication with me.

"Let the blood of our brave dead always by a strong voice induce every burgher to fight for liberty. We have nothing left to lose, but everything to win. The government is most firmly decided to continue the struggle. I am convinced the burghers will applaud this decision and act accordingly until the end. Burghers are warned against the fine words used by the enemy to deceive them and to make them put down their arms, because, according to the proclamation of Roberts, they will all be transported to St. Helena or Ceylon as prisoners of war. Our cause, however, precarious, is not hopeless if every burgher only does his duty. The Lord is sure to give a blessed end in his own time and in his own way."

ROBBED THE MAIL CAR.

Postal Clerk on the Cotton Belt Railroad Line Was Nearly Killed.

Texarkana, Ark., Dec. 15.—A bold robbery on the Cotton Belt railroad occurred today at Bassetts, Tex., 30 miles south of Texarkana, on the train coming north, in which Postal Clerk John H. Dennis was almost killed and mail pouches of the car rifled of their contents. The amount stolen is not known. As the train left the Bassetts water tank at 6 A. M., the express and mail cars were separated from the train, but the train crew soon had them coupled again. In the run from there to Texarkana, the coaches were uncoupled twice in a very mysterious manner. Upon the arrival of the train here the United States transfer clerk went to the door of the mail car and knocked for the postal clerk to open it. No response was given. Officials then forced an entrance and were astonished to find Clerk Dennis stretched upon the floor, apparently dead. A hurried examination showed that the registered pouches had been ripped open and robbed of their contents, the most valuable of which was the Wayne-Memphis pouch, containing a large number of valuable packages. A physician was sent for and it was found that Dennis was alive but unconscious. An ugly wound on the top of his head told the story. Two hours after he was taken to the hospital he revived enough to give the details of the robbery.

Just as the train parted at Bassetts tank, Dennis went into the vestibule of the mail car to stir up the fire. When he opened the vestibule door he saw two men standing by the stove. One of them dealt him a terrible blow over the head with a heavy fire shovel. The first blow felled him and he was then quickly beaten into a senseless condition. Word reahced here at noon that two suspects have been arrested at Naples, near the scene of the robbery, but none of the stolen packaegs was found.

American Arrested in Cape Colony.

London, Dec. 15.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Mail reports the arrest at Worcester, Cape Colony, of Harold Darringale, alleged to be an American, on a charge of fomenting an Afrikander rebellion. "The arrest," says the dispatch, "has made a great sensation, and startling disclosures are promised."

Held Up a Box Office.

Sioux City, Ia., Dec. 15.—During the performance of "Shore Acres" in the Grand Opera house in this city tonight, two masked men entered the box office, assaulted, beat and shot the treasurer, Harley S. Rounds, and escaped without getting any cash.

Rumor of British Defeat.

London, Dec. 15.—The Daily Express publishes a rumor of a serious disaster to the British arms. According to this report, the Boers attacked the camp of General Clements, in the Barberton district, capturing the camp, killing a number of British officers, and taking prisoners all the British troops, including four companies of the Northumberland fusiliers. The story is not confirmed in any quarter, and is not generally believed.

Two Hundred Persons Drowned.

Canton, Dec. 15 —The falling overboard of a man from a passenger boat on the West river, near Hoaku, led to a rush of some 400 passengers to the side of the vessel, which caused her to sink, over 200 persons being drowned.

Andree's Brother Has Hopes.

Copenhagen, Dec. 15.—The brother of Professor Andree, the missing Arctic explorer, hoping for Andree's return from the polar regions, has deferred opening the latter's testament for 12 months.

DEWET EVADES KNOX.

General Kitchener Reports a Running Fight With the Boers.

London, Dec. 17.—Lord Kitchener cables the war office from Pretoria under date of Decmber 12 that General Knox reports from Helvetia that he is engaged in a running fight with General Dewet, and that the enemy is moving towards Reddersburg, where there is a column ready to co-operate with the other British forces. Lord Kitchener in another dispatch reports that Boers attacked the post near Barberton. The British casualties were three killed, five wounded and 13 taken prisoners. The captured men have since been released. The Boers raided the Riverton road station December 11. They are being followed up.

General Kitchener's message indicates that Dewet has again evaded Knox. After the latter had foiled the Boer general at Coomassie drift, the Boers seem to have doubled back, crossed the Caledon river elsewhere, and turned thence northwest—in the direction of Reddersburg, the memorable scene of the British disaster in April, when Dewet captured the British Rifles.

Tragedies on Shipboard.

San Francisco, Dec. 17.—The British ship Crown of Scotland, which arrived today, 130 days from Penarth, Cardiff, had three tragic entries in her log. November 24 John Warrington stabbed P. C. Haglund, his shipmate, while the latter was asleep in his bunk. Leaving his sheath-knife in his victim's breast, the murderer ran up on deck, jumped overboard and was drowned, despite efforts to reach him with a lifeboat. No one on board of the ship knows of the motive. The second tragedy occurred August 1. Salvatori Servis fell from the foreyard, struck the deck and fractured his thigh and received internal injuries which caused his death.

Correcting an Extradition Treaty.

Washington, Dec. 17.—A treaty has been concluded between the United States and Great Britain amendatory of the existing extradition treaty and intended to correct certain imperfections in that instrument, developed by recent experiences. The changes do not materially affect the scope or principles of the existing treaty, the chief item in the list being provisions classifying as a crime subject to extradition the obtaining of money under false pretenses. At present the treaty makes extraditionable the reception of money obtained under false pretenses and omits the principal in the crime, constituting a manifest absurdity. To correct this the amendment is made.

Grounding of the Garonne.

Seattle, Dec. 17.—Letters have been received in this city announcing the grounding of the United States transport Garonne on the northern coast of Luzon. She struck twice, being rescued both times by the Yorktown. The second time the Yorktown's cable caught in the Garonne's wheel, causing a further delay of 12 hours. The letters also tell about a hard march of the American troops under General Hall. The line of march was over steep mountains for a distance of 45 miles, taking in all six days. At the conclusion, 165 men were under medical treatment for several days.

Search for Hidden Gold.

Pekin, Dec. 17.—A few days ago the British troops were notified of the existence of a large amount of treasure 20 miles northwest of here. Colonel Tullock and 100 men left today to investigate the truth of the report. Colonel Tullock requested, however, that 50 extra men be detailed. It is believed that a large amount of gold and valuables were buried at that point by persons connected with the Chinese court during the recent flight. The information regarding the treasure was received from a former court official.

Trial Trip of the Alabama.

Philadelphia, Dec. 17.—The United States battleship Alabama sailed today from League Island navy yard for New York, where she will await further orders. She will make a trial trip on the run, which will begin as soon as she passes out to sea. After the sea trial is completed the vessel's course will be shaped further out to sea to avoid shipping, as all of her guns and turrets are to be tested. If the report is satisfactory, it is probable that the battleship will be ordered to Hampton Roads to join the North Atlantic squadron.

Anti-Foreign Plot in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong, Dec. 17.—The city was placarded today with statements inciting the people and the members of the secret societies to unite and rise during the month of January and drive out all the foreigners. Crowds gathered about the placards, but no actual outbreak is reported.

Wisconsin's Vote.

Madison, Wisconsin, Dec. 17.—The total vote of Wisconsin, as officially canvassed, was 425,151. McKinley's plurality was 106,581. LaFollette, Republican, for governor, has a plurality of 103,745.

Oxford Beats Cambridge.

London, Dec. 17.—The annual Rugby football match between Oxford and Cambridge took place today at the Queen's club. A magnificent game was won by Oxford by two goals to a goal and a try. There was a large and fashionable attendance.

Nordenskjold's Expedition.

Christiania, Dec. 17.—The Antarctic expedition, headed by Dr. Otto Nordenksjold, will leave in August.

Pacific County Timber Deal.

South Bend, Wash., Dec. 17.—The Weyerhauser Timber Company has added 2,560 acres more to their extensive timber holdings in Pacific county, by the purchase of the Harkey tract on Mill creek, from John M. Cross, of Portland. The consideration was $16,000.

A Bill From Clatsop County Fishermen.

Clatsop county, Or., fishing interests have agreed upon a bill for the coming Oregon legislature.

A BRITISH DISASTER

Clements' Force Defeated by Boers Under Delarey.

WERE HEAVY LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES

English Forced to Abandon Their Position—General French With Reinforcements Has Gone to the Rescue.

London, Dec. 17.—Lord Kitchener reports that, after severe fighting at Nooitgedacht, General Clements' forces were compelled to retire by Commandant Delarey, with a force of 2,500 men. Five British officers were killed. The other casualties were not reported. Lord Kitchener's official dispatch to the war office is as follows:

"Pretoria, Dec. 15.—Clements' force at Nooitgedacht, on the Magalies' Berg, was attacked at dawn today by Delarey, reinforced by Beyer's commando from Warmbath, making a force estimated at 2,500. Though the first attack was repulsed, the Boers managed to get to the top of the Magalies' Berg, which was held by four companies of the Northumberland fusiliers, and were thus able to command Clements' camp. He retired on Nelspoort, and took up a position on a hill in the center of the valley.

"The casualties have not been completely reported, but the fighting was very severe, and I deeply regret that Colonel Legge, of the Twentieth hussars, and Captains McBean, Murdoch and Atkinson were killed."

Lord Kitchener also reports that the Boers made an attack and were repulsed at Lychtenberg, and that General Lemmer was killed. Attacks upon Bethlehem and Vrede were also repulsed, the Boers losing 10 killed and 14 wounded. Vryheid was attacked December 11. Sniping continued when the message was dispatched.

The scenes at the war office today recall those witnessed in the early stages of the war. A constant stream of excited people filled the lobbies, all seeking details of the disaster. The absence of the names of any of the officers of the Northumberland fusiliers in General Kitchener's dispatch leads to the foreboding that the four companies of the fusiliers mentioned are in the hands of the Boers. The war office officials evidently expect a heavy casualty list, but they are hopeful from the fact that the dispatch does not mention the capture of the Northumberlands that such a great catastrophe has been escaped.

Orders were issued at Aldershot, Malta and other military centers to dispatch all the available mounted infantry to South Africa.

It is reported that General Knox, cooperating with the British column at Reddersberg, has stopped General Dewet, and that a battle is proceeding. The report adds that many of General Dewet's followers have been captured.

The scene of the fight is ominously close to Pretoria. Nooitgedacht is only 22 miles northwest of Pretoria.

English Loss Heavy.

London, Dec. 17.—Lord Kitchener reports that 18 officers and 555 men are missing from General Clements' force. They consist of four companies of the Northumberland fusiliers. Judging from the message these were captured by the Boers. Clements' casualties December 15 amounted to five officers and nine men killed and many apparently wounded.

French Goes to the Rescue.

Johannesburg, Dec. 17.—The battle still continues within a few miles from Krugersdorp. General Clements has asked for reinforcements, and mounted men under General French have already gone. There have been many casualties on both sides. It is estimated that the Boers number 2,800.

Montana Town Shaken.

Guthrie, Mont., Dec. 17.—The inhabitants of the town of Cashion were awakened this morning by a peculiar wave-like motion and trembling of the earth. Many of them rushed into the streets, so badly were they frightened. No damage was done.

Increase in Wages.

Calumet, Mich., Dec. 17.—Commencing January 1, the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company will increase the wages of its 4,000 employes 2½ per cent. Last March the company raised the wages of its employes 10 per cent.

Paddy Ryan Dead.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 17.—Paddy Ryan, at one time champion pugilist of the world, who was defeated by John L. Sullivan, in their famous fight in Mississippi some years ago, died at his home in Glens Falls, N. Y., this afternoon.

Earthquake In Missouri.

Joplin, Mo., Dec. 17.—An earthquake shock lasting nearly a minute was experienced in this city at 7:45 o'clock this morning. The motion was from north to south, and of a quivering nature.

No Lives Were Lost.

San Francisco, Dec. 17.—One of the severest storms which has ever visited San Francisco broke over the city at an early hour this morning and continued until noon in fitful gusts, rain and wind sweeping over the city with unusual violence, and being accompanied by thunder and lightning, a rather unusual occurrence in this part of the country. At one time rain fell in such torrents that many thought a cloudburst was imminent.

Girl Students Burned Alive.

Dunkirk, N. Y., Dec. 17.—From the smouldering ruins of the Fredonia state normal and training school, which was destroyed by fire at 6 o'clock this morning, one charred body has been recovered. A revision of the list of missing makes it certain that seven persons perished in the fire, which also entailed a property loss of $200,000. There were 75 young women students in the building, of whom six perished. The other victim was the aged janitor. The origin of the fire is unknown.