

EVENTS OF THE DAY

An interesting collection of items from the two hemispheres presented in a condensed form.

The queen's body was laid at rest at Frogmore.

The Italian ministry was attacked in the chamber of deputies.

Secretary Root replies to the senate on the deportation of Tagals.

Mrs. Nation was arrested while "joint-smashing" in Topeka.

The president has sent a long list of army nominations to the senate.

The Astoria city council has granted a 75-year street railway franchise.

Titled guests are beginning to arrive at The Hague for Wilhelmina's wedding.

Five inches of snow has fallen in New York city during the past 24 hours.

John Marshall day exercises were held at the national capital and at other cities.

Mindoro natives in the Philippines rose against the insurgents and killed the rebel governor.

Federalists in Ballan province, Philippine islands, warned the insurgents to cease operations.

Oregon appropriations to the amount of \$396,380 have been agreed upon by ways and means committee.

The Masonic temple at Toledo, Ohio, was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of \$150,000, of which \$50,000 is on the building.

Senator Hanebrough has reported from the committee on lands a bill providing for the establishment of reservoirs for storing waters to irrigate arid lands.

Railway traffic is seriously interfered with by a land slide on the Southern Pacific in the Cow creek canyon country. The track is covered for over 200 feet, ranging in depth from 15 to 20 feet.

Captain Rayand Sulzer, of the volunteer quartermaster's department, died on the transport Pak Ling, which has arrived at San Francisco. Captain Sulzer was a brother of Representative Sulzer, of New York.

L. A. Wing, manager of the Tacoma theater, was assaulted by two men as he was going home and twice knocked down. He fought energetically and called for assistance, and so was not robbed. He received slight injuries on the forehead and wrist.

Consul-General Pierce says the Boers are not beaten.

Governor Nash says he will prevent the Jeffries-Rubin fight.

Eulogies to the late Senator Davis were delivered in the house.

Edwin Markham read a poem in Philadelphia dedicated to Queen Victoria.

Ex-Senator Hill declares that he is not a candidate for the presidency in 1904.

Iron Dyke copper mine in Eastern Oregon changes hands; consideration \$50,000.

A plot was discovered to tar and feather Mrs. Nation, the saloon wrecker.

Fire in the trimming department of the Krug Packing Company's plant, St. Joseph, Mo., did \$100,000 damage.

Fire from an unknown cause destroyed the large plant of the National Wire Company, at Fairhaven, Conn., entailing a property loss estimated at \$825,000.

Fire at the W. B. Earthman Lumber Company's plant, Nashville, Tenn., destroyed lumber, warehouses, 12 tenement houses, and nine freight cars. Loss, \$100,000.

The worst storm of the winter prevails throughout Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Colorado, Michigan and Wisconsin. Railway traffic is somewhat interfered with.

Mrs. Thomas Green, an aged woman, wife of an old-time mine prospector, was burned to death in her home in the suburbs of Aspen, Colo. It is supposed the fire was of accidental origin.

State of Washington cannot have one of the new battle-ships named for it.

The Union Pacific Railway Company, by purchasing the entire holdings of the Huntington estate and Stanford-Crocker estates, has secured control of two-fifths of the Southern Pacific railway stock.

The president has issued new credentials to Mr. Choate as ambassador of the United States to Great Britain. They are similar in form to those held by Mr. Choate, with the exception that they accredit him to King Edward VII instead of Queen Victoria.

ONLY FOUR BIDDERS.

Contracts Will Go to Newport News, Bath Works and Neafe & Levy.

Washington, Feb. 4.—Bids for the construction of three protected cruisers were opened at the navy department today.

The attendance of bidders was neither as large nor as representative as in the case of the last opening. It is doubtful if the Cramps or the Union Iron Works have been unrepresented before in any bidding since the birth of the "new navy." One of the Moran Bros., of Seattle, was the solitary representative of the Pacific coast interests, but did not bid. There were only four bids in all.

The first bid opened was that of the Newport News Shipbuilding Company. They offered to build a 5,700 ton cruiser with a speed of 22 knots in 36 months for \$2,741,000. The Bath Iron Works offered to build a cruiser of the same proportions for \$2,750,000. The William R. Trigg Company, of Richmond, offered to build one cruiser for \$2,780,200, being the limit of cost fixed by congress, or two cruisers for \$5,480,000. The last bid was the lowest, and was submitted by the Neafe & Levy Shipbuilding Company, of Philadelphia. It offered to build a cruiser on the department's plan in 36 months for \$2,740,000.

These cruisers are designed to be the most formidable vessels in the world of their class. They will resemble closely the type of second-class armored cruisers and might be easily mistaken for such. The act of congress authorizing this class of cruisers states that the vessels should carry "the most powerful ordnance for vessels of their type, and have the highest speed compatible with good cruising qualities and great radius of action." Admiral Hiebhorn, chief constructor of the navy, who has been foremost in the preparation of plans for the building of the "new navy," says that in an engagement the new cruisers would be able to cope with and prove more than a match for some of the armored cruisers of foreign navies.

The new vessels are to be named the St. Louis, the Milwaukee and the Charleston, the last to continue the name of the ship wrecked November 2, 1899, in the Philippines.

THE NEW YORK FIRE.

Caused by an Explosion of Chemicals in the Wicke Factory.

New York, Feb. 4.—The extent of the destruction wrought by the conflagration which destroyed nearly a whole block of buildings at Thirty-first street and First avenue last night could be better appreciated this morning. The huge factory of the William Wicke Company was almost level with the ground. Contractor Joseph Cody, of the building department, with a force of 100 men, had labored at the ruins all night pulling down dangerous sections of the walls.

Other property destroyed was the six-story building, numbers 404, 406 and 408 East Thirty-second street; the five-story tenement at 546 and 548 First avenue; the five-story tenement at 462 East Thirty-first street; Jackson's iron foundry and a two story brick building on Thirty-first street, occupied by the Swift Dressed Beef Company. About 70 families were rendered homeless by the burning of the tenements.

Fire Chief Croker said today he believed the fire was caused by an explosion of chemicals in the Wicke factory. He was informed that a watchman had gone into the vault in the cellar with a light and that the vault contained the explosives. The chief added that he did not know what had become of the watchman or who he is. He said the explosion that started the conflagration might have been caused by illuminating gas getting into the cellar from the gas main, but he did not think this was the case.

Policemen Thomas J. Fitzpatrick and John B. McMullin, who were on duty at the fire, are reported missing today.

BATTLE IN ABYSSINIA.

It is Supposed the Chiefs Rebelled During the Absence of Menelik.

Paris, Feb. 4.—A dispatch to the Francais from Cairo says news has been received there from Abyssinia of a great battle in which 7,000 were killed. It is supposed the chiefs rebelled during the absence of King Menelik, who has gone to the Egyptian frontier in connection with the delimitation of the Egypto-Abyssinia frontier.

London, Feb. 4.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Cairo says severe fighting is reported in Abyssinia. The casualties are said to number 7,000.

The foreign office officials know nothing of any difficulty in King Menelik's territory, but it is not unlikely they think that certain malcontent chiefs may have taken advantage of King Menelik's absence from the capital to foment an insurrection.

Belgium Has no Navy.

Belgium has no navy except a training ship for the merchant marine.

CHARGE OF TREASON

Petition Filed Against Delegate Wilcox, of Hawaii.

SOME SENSATIONAL LETTERS SHOWN

Offered His Services to Aguinaldo to Fight Against the United States—His Election Was Illegal.

Washington, Feb. 4.—A petition containing charges was submitted today to the house committee on elections No. 1, against Delegate Robert W. Wilcox, the Hawaiian representative in the house of representatives. The charges are made in writing by George D. Gear, of Hawaii, who submitted letters purporting to be copies of letters written by Wilcox to Filipino officials. The alleged letters are of a highly sensational character.

One of the letters said to be written by Wilcox is given in duplicate. It is dated Honolulu, January 31, 1899, and addressed to Dr. J. Joseph Losada, Captain Marti Burgos and Senor J. Luna, and introduced to them a "friend of mine who is a very able man to help you in your cause."

"Mr. — will be a useful ally to fight for the cause of the Philippines. One thing is sure, that you could resist any army of invasion—you have a population of 12,000,000 and already a disciplined army of 30,000 will be equipped with modern arms. I have already made up my mind to join with you in your country against America in case they insist to ignore the right, the justice of your cause. I know well my profession as an artillery officer. I have no fear of the whole world when I fight for a legitimate cause like yours. Between General Aguinaldo's determination and myself, it will be but a very little chance left to the invading army of the United States to conquer your country. Tell General Aguinaldo that I am already giving my service for your country and I am ready to obey orders to go to your country and fight for the independence of your people and country at any moment."

The letter bears the alleged signature of Robert Wilcox.

Another letter dated Honolulu, March 8, 1899, says: "I am thinking of going to the Philippine islands and give my assistance to Aguinaldo against the invaders—the hypocritical Yankees, the carpet-bag politicians."

Mr. Wilcox declined to make any extended answer to the charges filed by Mr. Gear. He says he has no fears of the charges made. He admits that he wrote a letter to Dr. Losada, Captain Burgos and Senor Luna C. Caesar Morena, an Italian of this city, whom he had known while the latter was in Hawaii in the '80s. Morena had a meteoric career in Hawaii. For a few days he was secretary of state. Wilcox says Morena is the person to whom the unaddressed letter filed by Mr. Gear was addressed, but says he was unable after a cursory examination to say whether the letters filed were exact copies of those he sent.

The petition of Gear recites that there was no election machinery when Wilcox was elected delegate, November 6, 1900, and that many voters did not believe that a valid election could be held without it and therefore, made no attempt to vote. The petition then brings forward personal charges against Wilcox, relating to his marriage and also to his career, under the kingdom of Hawaii. It is also alleged "that Wilcox, in his speeches prior to the election, made use of anti-American utterances for the purpose of carrying the election, telling the native Hawaiians that the Americans had stolen their country and that a vote for him was a vote for the restoration of the queen, and that, if he were elected, the queen would be restored; that Wilcox was and is guilty of treason against the United States, in that he did, as petitioner is informed and believes, since the annexation of said Hawaiian islands, write and send through the United States mails letters highly treasonable in their nature, wherein he did counsel and incite others to engage in open rebellion against the United States, and did offer his service to General Aguinaldo to go to the Philippines to fight and engage in open rebellion against the United States, copies of which letters are herewith filed."

Kansas City Theater Fire.

Kansas City, Feb. 4.—In the total destruction by fire last night of the old Coates opera house an aggregate loss of \$150,000 was suffered. The building was valued at \$75,000, the furniture at \$50,000, and the property of the Walker Whiteside Company, which had just begun a week's engagement, at \$25,000. The opera house and contents were insured for but \$40,000, while Whiteside carried absolutely no fire protection. Mr. Whiteside lost, in addition to his trunks and properties, several valuable manuscripts that were to have been produced shortly.

MONEY FOR THE ARMY.

Appropriation Bill Carries One Hundred and Eighteen Million.

Washington, Feb. 6.—The army appropriation bill, making provision for the army, under the reorganization recently enacted as completed by the house committee on military affairs and reported by Chairman Hull, it carries approximately \$118,000,000, as against estimates of about \$130,000,000 made by war department officials. The total of army appropriations, general and deficiency, for last year aggregated \$118,000,000. Chairman Hull says the present bill will be ample, and will not entail a deficiency measure later. The contingency appropriation of \$1,000,000 to "meet emergencies constantly arising," was stricken out by the committee. The main items as allowed are: Pay of officers, \$5,000,000; pay of enlisted men, \$14,000,000; pay of retired officers, \$1,500,000; nurse corps, \$130,000. The total for subsistence approximates \$13,000,000, of which amount \$13,000,000 is for regular rations and \$630,000 for sick and convalescent rations.

The aggregate for the quartermaster's department is the largest in the bill, reaching \$57,150,000. The chief items are: Quartermaster's supplies, \$9,000,000; incidental supplies, \$2,400,000; horses for cavalry and artillery, \$750,000; barracks and quarters, \$3,000,000; transportation of army and supplies, \$34,000,000; clothing, etc., \$8,000,000. Owing to the needs of the paymasters department, the bill grants authority for the detail of captains of the line as paymasters while there may be necessity for such details.

BOERS CAPTURE BRITISH POST

Kitchener Reports Fall of Meddersfontein—No Details.

London, Feb. 6.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Kitchener, commander-in-chief in South Africa:

"Pretoria, Feb. 4.—Our post at Meddersfontein, in the Gatteland, southeast of Krugersdorp, was attacked by 1,000 Boers. The relief column sent out from Krugersdorp failed to prevent the fall of the post. No details yet at hand, but officers and men captured at the post are arriving at Vereeniging."

Boers in Portuguese Territory.

Lourenco Marques, Feb. 6.—There is a commando of 2,000 Boers on Portuguese territory. It is supposed that their intention is to rescue the Boers here. The Portuguese authorities have decided to remove to Madeira such Boer refugees as decline to surrender to the British.

SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.

Kaffir Rifles Lost Heavily in the Engagement Near Senekal.

London, Feb. 6.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, wiring Sunday, says:

"It appears that in the action between General Knox and General Dewet, near Senekal, the Kaffir rifles sustained about 100 casualties. More mounted troops are still needed. Three Boer invading columns, of which Herzog's was for a time the advance guard, are now moving toward the Orange river. It is believed that Piet Botha's force of 2,000 men, with seven guns, from Smithfield, has crossed into the Colony. British concentration is proceeding. Outlying garrisons are being withdrawn for the purpose of securing the main lines. General Dewet is expected to enter Cape Colony."

French Captured a Canyon.

London, Feb. 6.—General Kitchener, in a dispatch from Pretoria, dated February 5, says:

"French's column, in driving the Boers east, captured a 15 pounder and picked up parts of a second gun disabled by our fire. The commandoes in the colony are being hustled. The Midland commando is being chased by Haig in the direction of Steyleraville. Sixteen of them have recently been killed by our men."

The Moddersfontein Affair.

London, Feb. 6.—Lord Kitchener, commander-in-chief in South Africa, reports to the war office as follows:

"Pretoria, Feb. 5.—Our casualties at Moddersfontein were two officers killed and two wounded. It appears that the post was rushed on a pitch dark night during a heavy rain. The enemy numbered 1,400 with two guns. "Campbell, south of Middelburg, engaged 500 Boers, who were driven back with loss. Our casualties were 20 killed or wounded.

"French is near Bethel, moving east and driving the enemy, with slight opposition. Four of our ambulances, while seeking wounded, were captured. The doctors were released.

"Dewet's force is reported south of Dewetsdorp."

Boer Prisoners Escaped.

Sebastopol, Feb. 6.—Dispatches received here say that four Boers who escaped from a British ship at Colombo, Ceylon, sought refuge on the Russian vessel Kherson, whose passengers received them enthusiastically.

AGAINST THE TAGALS

Mindoro Natives Turn Against the Insurgents.

THERE ARE NO TROOPS AT MINDORO

Rebel Governor of the Island Killed—Federalists in a Luzon Province Warn the Insurgents.

Manila, Feb. 6.—Natives have reported at Batangas that a week ago the natives of the island of Mindoro rose against the insurgents and killed the insurgent governor. There are no troops at Mindoro.

The Federal party of Batangas province, including the president of each pueblo, held a big meeting at Orania yesterday, and resolved to notify the insurgents of Batangas that they must cease operations within a week or the people will assist the Americans to capture them.

Surrenders and minor skirmishes continue in Southern Luzon. A few insurgents have been killed. There were no American casualties.

Public discussion of the provincial government bill has been completed. The bill will be passed Wednesday, and soon afterward the commissioners will begin their tour of organizing provincial governments in those provinces of Southern Luzon which General MacArthur and the commissioners consider sufficiently pacified. Commissioners Wright and Ide, who are drafting criminal and civil codes, may remain in Manila temporarily, to complete their work by February 23, when the commissioners and practically all the employes will leave for the southern islands, where they will examine the conditions and continue the organization of governments in provinces which are found to be prepared for self-government. The commissioners expect to spend four weeks on their southern tour.

Fewer than 400 persons attended the meeting called by Senor Buencamino at the Rial theater, in the Tomio ward of Manila, to inaugurate the evangelical movement. Considerable interest was manifested in the proceedings, and there was some expressions of approval of the addresses. No attempt, however, was made to commit the meeting to Protestantism, that aspect of the case being left for subsequent action at his discretion by Rev. James B. Rogers, a missionary of the Presbyterian board, who was present. Senor Buencamino explained the religious effort as wholly outside the Federal party, which had been organized solely to promote political police.

VICTORY FOR MEXICANS.

Engaged Mays Indians and Killed and Wounded Three Hundred.

St. Louis, Feb. 6.—A special from Oaxaco, Mexico, says: The military authorities have been advised of another engagement which took place between the government troops and a large force of Maya Indians. The battle took place about nine miles from Santa Cruz, the stronghold of the rebels, and resulted in a victory for the government troops. The casualties on the rebel side were heavy, it being estimated that they lost over 300 men killed and wounded. Several hundred reinforcements have joined General Bravo's command. It is asserted that there are several white men, among the officers of the Maya forces. They are believed to be Englishmen from British Honduras, which country borders on the Maya territory.

Anti-Jesuit Demonstration.

Valencia, Spain, Feb. 6.—The anti-Jesuit demonstrations which began in Madrid in connection with the anti-Clerical play "Electra," have spread to Valencia. Today crowds gathered in front of the Jesuit church of the Sacred Heart, where a confirmation of children was in progress, and shouted, "Liberty forever," and "Down with the Jesuits." A Jesuit who was leaving the church was hooted, and then the crowd marched to the Jesuit college and stoned the windows and doors, still shouting, "Down with the Jesuits." Finally the demonstration was dispersed by gendarmes.

Philadelphia Editor Commits Suicide.

John T. Williams, editor of the Keystone, a Philadelphia trade paper, committed suicide by poison at St. George hotel, New York.

Receivers for Locomotive Works.

New York, Feb. 6.—William Barbour and John C. Bennington were today appointed receivers to wind up the business of the Rogers Locomotive Company, at Patterson, N. J. It is likely the works will be disposed of at private sale.

Trains Again Running Out of Pekin.

Berlin, Feb. 6.—The German war office has received a dispatch from Count von Waldersee, dated Pekin, which announces that railway communication has been restored between Pekin, Feng Tai and Pao Ting Fu.