

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK

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

New York wants both the big conventions.

The investment of Mafeking is closer than ever.

John S. Chase, the socialist mayor of Haverhill, Mass., has been re-elected.

Ten shipwrights from Seattle took the places of the strikers at Vallejo navy yard.

Ex-Governor Lord, of Oregon, has departed for Argentina, to take his post as United States minister.

Legality of the war revenue act is involved in the inheritance tax case before the United States supreme court.

The Six Chinese Companies, of San Francisco, have subscribed \$4,000 to promote commercial relations between China and the United States.

The New York coffee exchange has petitioned the authorities to release the coffee cargo of the plague ship Taylor. They claim there is no danger.

Chaplain Shields, being tried at San Francisco by court-martial for drunkenness, will try to prove that his brother clergymen are persecuting him.

Beet-sugar men are much disturbed over recent discussion. Their industry is flourishing, but free sugar from the islands they say would be disastrous to them.

The German ship Wanshek, which has arrived at Astoria, lost two men on the voyage from Philadelphia, and the boatswain says it was the captain's fault.

Crawford, the soldier who permitted Wardner bull-pen prisoners to escape, was dishonorably discharged and sentenced to 13 years six months imprisonment.

Dispatches indicate that the Boers are making all preparations for a hasty retreat to the Transvaal borders in the event of defeat at Tugela and Ladysmith.

A Kentucky mob had no mercy for a negro who murdered and outraged a woman. He was dragged through the streets at the end of a rope and finally bound to a stake and burned alive.

Sick soldiers were compelled to fight at Vigan. The Americans had but one company and 150 sick men. They had to fight 800 Filipinos. The attack was made in the early morning, and it became a hand to hand conflict.

Fighting has ceased between the Mexicans and Yaquis, the Indians having retreated. It is said they may be joined by others. A courier says the Yaqui's losses in killed and wounded during 10 days' fighting were estimated at 200. The Mexican losses were 15 killed and 30 wounded.

The postmaster of Boston has resigned.

An illicit oleomargarine factory has been unearthed at Chicago.

The Payne-Hanna subsidy bill has been introduced in the house.

Jeffries and Corbett are planning to fight at the Paris exposition and France is horrified.

Ninety Boer prisoners are said to have been massacred at Eland's laagto by British soldiers.

General Hughes is now occupying 20 Panay towns. His lines extend 35 miles north of Ilo Ilo.

The United States supreme court has decided that the conductor of a freight train is not a vice-principal.

England is buying mules, horses, canned goods, hay and rails in this country for shipment to South Africa.

An Astoria contractor wants to haul the stranded lighthouse overland from Ocean beach to Baker's bay. He claims it can be done.

A cablegram from Hong Kong says that Aguinaldo is now ready to surrender if Consul Wildman will receive him. The junta at Hong Kong advised him to take such action.

The industries of Cuba are in a deplorable condition. In two provinces the destruction of sugar interests alone is estimated at \$680,000,000, and there are no efforts at rebuilding.

Huntington has bought another big block of Southern Pacific stock and there are said to be others in on the deal. Railroad men believe the Vanderbilts are in some way concerned.

The shelling of the British camp at Ladysmith has been far more effective than previous reports have led people to believe. Hundreds were killed and wounded from the Boer bombardment.

Rapid telegraph system will revolutionize all correspondence. Such low rates will be made that merchants can afford to use the system instead of the mails. It is to be placed in operation at once.

Chickamauga is to have a confederate monument to cost \$65,000.

Baltimore claims the largest negro population of any city in the world.

The Berlin police forcibly dissolved an anarchist meeting in memory of the Chicago bomb throwers.

Commissioner Evans has granted a pension of \$15 per month to Adelaide W. Bagley, mother of Lieutenant Worth Bagley, who was killed in the war with Spain.

LATER NEWS.

The transports Sheridan and Grant are at Seattle.

Engineers and firemen of the Union Pacific have asked for more pay.

The Pacific Express office at Omaha was robbed of from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

The British ship Glenholm will be fumigated at Astoria for fear of yellow fever.

A prominent Frenchman says that England is ready for war with the whole world.

A negro was shot at Lewiston, Id. The bullet flattened on his skull and he was comparatively uninjured.

Washington officials are anxious over the possible fate of the American prisoners in the hands of Aguinaldo.

The debate on the finance bill has commenced in the house. Representative Overstreet made the opening address.

The football team of the University of California will play the Carlisle Indians on Christmas day, in San Francisco.

Commander E. P. Wood, U. S. N., is dead of typhoid fever at Washington. He commanded the Petrel in the battle of Manila bay.

To increase Admiral Dewey's troubles Minnesota people will present him with a large black bear recently captured.

General Gatacre lost nearly six hundred men near Stormberg. The British forces were led into the trap by treacherous guides.

The supreme court of Oregon has finally passed upon the case of the state vs. Magers, the petition for a rehearing being denied.

Congressman Bailey will protest against the entrance of General Joe Wheeler into congress on his return from the Philippines.

"Governor of Cuba" will be the official designation of the office to which Major-General Leonard Wood will be assigned early in the new year.

The North Atlantic squadron commander, Admiral Farquhar, will leave New York Saturday on his annual cruise. The fleet will be met in the Gulf of Mexico.

Colonel James Graham and William P. Cunneen, prominent politicians of St. Marys, Kan., drank from a disinfectant bottle which they supposed to contain whiskey, and are not expected to live.

The president will soon send a special message to congress regarding rewards for officers and men from the Atlantic squadron who distinguished themselves during the war with Spain, and whose gallantry has not yet been recognized.

The controller of the currency has declared the fifth dividend of 10 per cent in favor of the creditors of The Dallas National bank, making 95 per cent paid on the claims proved, amounting to \$26,318.20.

Englishmen are depressed by the situation in Africa.

Arizona will apply for statehood to the present congress.

The Americans have occupied Bangued, province of Abra.

Steamers will leave Portland every 10 days for Cape Nome.

The Kentucky election commission gives Taylor's plurality as 2,383.

The Filipinos' treasury was captured by the Americans at Mangataram.

The government's herd of reindeer in Alaska is rapidly increasing and now numbers 2,600.

Bishop Henry Potter, of New York, has arrived in Manila on a brief visit to study the Philippines.

A gas explosion killed many coal miners at Carbonado, Wash. Cause of the accident is a mystery.

The British artillery arm in South Africa has been materially strengthened by the arrival of six big guns.

Commander Charles I. Howell is dead at New York city. He was chief engineer of the Maine when she was blown up.

Lady Francis Cook, formerly Tennis Cluffin, announces her intention to forsake England and take up her residence in New York.

Two hundred miners are on a strike at the Tesla coal mines, California, because of a dispute with the superintendent over the wage schedule.

The horticultural commissioners of Southern California propose to establish a quarantine against infected nursery stock imported from foreign countries.

General Gregorio del Pilar was killed in a fight with the Thirty-third infantry, 18 miles northwest of Cervantes. The insurgents lost 70 men in the engagement.

The Vananda group of mines near Baker City was sold for \$1,500,000. The property is to be extensively developed by the new owners, who are British Columbia capitalists.

General Grant's expedition in Luzon has visited Orani and several western towns, meeting small bands. He killed several of the rebels and captured a quantity of munitions of war.

Erastus Lathrop, of Westfield, Mass., in his will left \$15,000 to D. L. Moody.

Cornelius Vanderbilt was fined \$110 for failure to act as juror in New York.

The commissioner of education urges the American system of schools for colonies.

Ira D. Sankey, the singer, who used to be associated with Mr. Moody is to become an evangelist on his own account and will conduct a series of revivals in various cities this winter.

MANY COAL MINERS KILLED

Gas Explosion Wrought Destruction at Carbonado.

CAUSE SHROUDED IN MYSTERY

Deadly Blackdamp Followed the Explosion, but the Mine Was Easily Ventilated—List of the Dead.

Tacoma, Dec. 12.—A mine explosion at Carbonado, 40 miles easterly from Tacoma, at 11 o'clock this morning, killed 32 men. Identification of the dead men is almost impossible. The scraps of clothing that still cling to the bodies of the men are carefully preserved, laid aside and labelled to aid in the identification. Frenzied relatives of the missing men gathered at the mouth of the mine and watched eagerly to catch a glimpse of the forms as they were huried by the coroner's office.

The work of rescue is being rushed forward, but it may be days before the last blackened form is taken from the mine, for many men are believed to lie buried under masses of earth and rock. To extricate them will take time, and thus far the work of rescue has been pushed forward at the extreme endurance of the workers, for the black damp and noxious gases have driven the rescuers back repeatedly.

When the explosion occurred a rush of the inhabitants was made in the direction of the mouth of the tunnel. Women, the wives of the men supposed to be in the shift, ran to and fro, screaming and wringing their hands with anguish, crying children clinging to their skirts.

It was all that D. T. Davies the superintendent of the mine, could do to stop the wives and friends of the doomed miners from plunging madly into the tunnel's mouth.

A revised death list follows:

Company men—Leonard Johnson, Henry Soni, Matt Rehela and Victor Ruhinaki (formerly given as John Hill) all Finns; Michael Kichinko, John Mellon and Andrew Goccy, Poles; John H. Jones, David X. Thomas, Howell Meredith, sr., Watkin Jones, Evan M. Lewis, Daniel Davis and Rees Jones, all Welsh; William Wilson, Joseph Lee and Richard Dare, Americans, and Ben Zeidler, jr., German.

Contract miners—August Hainut and Emil Hainut, Belgians; Paul Cartiss, Adam Pavoll, John Flota and Stephen Kraunoga, Poles; Ben Zeidler, sr., Germans; Matt Nuland and Jacob Lands, Finns. The cause of the explosion is a mystery to every one.

Only safety lamps are worn when at work. Governor Rogers will conduct a searching examination as to the cause of the explosion. He has telegraphed State Mine Inspector Owens, now at Spokane, to attend the inquest and examine witnesses himself. The question of the ventilation of the mine, in conformity with the state law, will be thoroughly gone into.

The total number of men in the unfortunate shift was 76, of whom 44 are alive, all of them having escaped or been rescued.

The mines are owned by the Carbon Hill Coal Company. They give work to 400 men, and have an output of 300,000 tons annually, and are situated 40 miles from Tacoma, on the Cascade division of the Northern Pacific. The mines are in a deep ravine, through which the Carbon river flows. The mines are supplied with every appliance for safety. They are largely tunneled, and the tunnels are so big that locomotives are run into them.

In 1890 an explosion at this same mine cost two lives, and John Hartman and some others were severely burned.

Aid for Needy.

Seattle, Dec. 12.—Washington miners, through the local union, have taken steps to render the families of the victims and those injured in the Carbonado explosion financial aid. All labor unions in Western Washington will contribute to the fund.

SERIOUS REVERSES.

Gatacre Was Defeated at Stormberg Junction.

Molteno, Cape Colony, Dec. 12.—General Gatacre left Sputter's kraal by train for Molteno and then proceeded by forced march 12 miles toward Stormberg. He had 2,000 men, including the Northumberland fosieters, the Royal Irish rifles and two batteries of field artillery.

The British were unmolested by the Boers until the Boer position was reached, when a hot fire was unexpectedly opened upon the advancing column.

The engagement began at 4:15 A. M. At 7 A. M. after a sharp artillery duel, the British retired. They are now marching toward Molteno. General Gatacre found the enemy's position impregnable. It was impossible for the British infantry to get at the Boers.

Trying to Monopolize Nome's Gold.

Seattle, Dec. 11.—Cape Nome miners have held a series of meetings in this city and employed counsel to defeat what they claim is an attempt on the part of certain corporations to withdraw in their favor the famous Cape Nome beach diggings.

New Train Put on.

The O. R. & N. Co. has just completed the purchase of a lot of new modern passenger equipment, which will permit the putting on of a second train, via the Huntington route. This will give Portland by this route both morning and evening service—two trains in each direction, and will be a great benefit in handling the business for the Baker City mining district, which is having such a tremendous growth.

WOMAN IN BERTH.

He Sued the Wagner Company and Received Damages.

New York, Dec. 11.—One of the most singular suits on record has just been decided in the city court in this city, Marcus Braun having secured a judgment against the Wagner Palace Car Company for \$750, as damages for a mistake made by one of the company's conductors, who allotted a berth already sold to Braun to a woman. When the error was discovered every berth in the train was sold, and Braun was compelled to sit in the smoking compartment during a trip from Cleveland to this city.

When Braun bought his coupon for the berth he left his luggage in the seat and went to the smoking compartment. He did not return for two hours, according to his own story, but when he did, he found the berth made up and occupied. The comments of the passengers so injured his feelings, he says, that a money compensation is due him, he alleges. The woman in the berth produced a coupon which was an exact duplicate of the coupon given Braun.

ONE WEEK OF DEBATE.

House Arranges for Consideration of Currency Bill.

Washington, Dec. 9.—The house adopted a special order for the consideration of the currency bill, beginning Monday. The general debate will continue until Friday, and Saturday amendments may be offered under the five-minute rule, and the following Monday the vote will be taken. The Democrats, Populists and Silverites presented a solid front against the adoption of the resolution, and every Republican voted for it.

Roberts, the Mormon representative elect from Utah, was not in the house when it convened today.

They May Be Vice-Admirals.

New York, Dec. 11.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: President McKinley, during an interview with Senator Wellington, expressed himself in favor of reviving the grade of vice-admiral in the interest of both Rear-Admiral Sampson and Rear-Admiral Schley. He believes that this is the simplest solution of the whole Sampson-Schley controversy, and it is expected that Senator Wellington will introduce a bill in a few days providing for the appointment of two vice-admirals without specifying names.

The president very frankly said that if such a bill became a law, he would promptly nominate both Sampson and Schley in the order named. This arrangement, both the president and Senator Wellington believe, will meet the approval of a majority of the friends of both officers.

Railroad Conferences in New York.

New York, Dec. 11.—The World says: Some important conferences between Union Pacific and Chicago & Northwestern railroad officials, have been held in this city within the past week and a report is again in circulation to the effect that the former system will be absorbed by the latter, which the Vanderbilts already control. This will be done under a long term lease, it is said. Both President Hughtitt and President Burt, of the two lines, are now in the city. They denied yesterday that their presence here had any such significance as was indicated by the report.

Is in Favor of Taylor.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 11.—The state board of elections tonight gave out its official findings that W. S. Taylor, for governor, and the rest of the Republican ticket, have been elected on the face of the returns. Commissioners Ellis and Pryor signed the majority report, in which they held that, as a board of canvassers, they have no right to go behind the returns of the county boards, that their duties are purely ministerial as canvassers, and that the face of the returns, as received by them from the counties, shows the election of the Republican state ticket. Accordingly, the report says, certificates of election were ordered issued to each candidate thereon.

Lake Steamer Missing.

Fort Colborne, Ont., Dec. 11.—It is believed here tonight that the Canadian steamer Niagara has foundered on Lake Erie and that all hands were lost. The crew comprised 16 persons, all told. Of these, Captain Henry McGlory, master of the lost steamer, is the only one known here. The Niagara had a cargo of lumber and shingles, bound from Georgian bay to Buffalo. Tuesday the Niagara was sighted off Long Point in the heavy gale and snow storm. The steamers Orion and M. T. Greene arrived this afternoon from Buffalo, and report passing through a quantity of wreckage. It consisted of lumber, shingles and pieces of a wooden steamer. The Niagara is the only boat known to be missing.

Cape Nome Will Rival Monte Carlo.

Seattle, Dec. 11.—Arrangements have been completed for a big gambling and theatrical enterprise, to be established at Cape Nome in the spring. The plans involve an expenditure of \$60,000. A special steamer will take North 40 variety performers, the paraphernalia for the biggest gambling house in Alaska and a building 50x140 feet, three stories high.

Argentina's Crops.

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 11.—The wheat prospects in the Argentine Republic are excellent. There will probably be an exportable surplus of 2,000,000 tons. The linseed crop will reach 350,000, and the total wool clip is about 225,000 tons, which guarantees an exportable surplus.

To prevent obstruction to traffic in the main streets of Boston in the day time, all the repairs are made at night.

BATTERIES SAVED GATACRE

His Artillery Arrived in the Nick of Time.

WAS TREACHEROUSLY GUIDED

British Set at an Impossible Task and Against Superior Numbers—Opinions of the Press—England Depressed.

London, Dec. 13.—Later details regarding the disaster to General Gatacre's column show that but for the magnificent work of the British artillery the disaster would have been far more extensive, as the incessant Boer fire in the midst of repulsed infantry ultimately led to disorder, which only escaped developing into rout through the batteries of artillery occupying successive positions, covering the retreat, thus drawing a portion of the Boer's galling fire.

Apparently, the British were set at an impossible task, and were treacherously guided. After a trying march and being under arms 16 hours, they attacked the wrong part of the Boer position, where the hill was impregnable, and the burghers were estimated to number 6,000 men instead of 500, as spies had reported. There is little in the story to mitigate the immense humiliation caused by the episode, which as almost an exact counterpart of the battle of Nicholson's Nek. The war office was besieged by anxious relatives today, and successive editions of the newspapers were eagerly scanned. Men and women are equally persistent in pleading for information, but the authorities either do not possess any, or are not prepared to publish it at present.

The affair has caused a most depressing influence everywhere, not excepting the stock exchange, where consols were at the lowest price in many years, and South African securities slumped, not so much on account of the military reverse, which is retrievable, but owing to profound apprehension as to its political effect. No great surprise would now be felt in Cape Colony's becoming aflame from end to end.

ENGLAND IS DEPRESSED.

London Papers All Regard the Defeat as a Most Serious One.

London, Dec. 13.—Discussing the defeat of General Gatacre at Stormberg, the Daily Mail says: "Quite apart from the loss of 600 fighting men, the unexpected Boer success will probably cause a more general and serious movement among the Cape Dutch. The government must promptly face this by the immediate dispatch of further troops."

The Daily News says: "The reverse General Gatacre has suffered is a sadly emphatic commentary on the peculiar difficulty of military operations in a semi-disaffected country. The enemy's spies are everywhere, and nowhere can we rely confidently on any counter information. General Gatacre seems to have been completely trapped. Of course he will immediately be reinforced."

The Daily Chronicle says: "There is only too much reason for fear that this is the worst illustration we have had yet of inadequate equipment and insufficient scouting. How far this disaster was due to lack of judgment on the spot and how far to lack of artillery is not quite clear, but the patient public cannot help reading that General Methuen's victory at Modder river was won by artillery reinforcement at the critical moment, and all they would like to know is how many times this particular lesson is to be learned."

The Standard says: "The event is in the highest degree deplorable. It will tell against us unfavorably in the Free State, among the colonial Dutch and even among the natives. A great deal of evidence has been accumulating during the past weeks to show how deeply the colony, or at least the northern and western portions of it, are honeycombed by dissatisfaction. Our generals have to cope with a rebel colony as well as hostile republics, and must take measures to lay their plans in accordance with the details."

SHERMAN REGRETS.

Says the President's Philippine Policy Is Wrong.

Philadelphia, Dec. 13.—In response to an invitation to attend an anti-imperialist mass meeting to be held at the Academy of Music, on the centennial anniversary of the death of Washington, December 4, the following letter has been received from ex-Secretary of State John Sherman, dated at Washington: "I have a strong conviction that the president erred in sending soldiers to the Philippines to take possession of their country. The United States had wisely, as I think, assisted the Filipinos in driving the Spaniards out of the Philippine islands, and should, I think, have aided them in protecting their country against all assaults. He no doubt was advised to adopt the measures taken, and all I can do is to express my regrets. Yours very truly, JOHN SHERMAN."

A Kentucky Hanging.

Paris, Ky., Dec. 13.—Clarence Williams, colored, was hanged in the jail yard here this morning. March 24 last Williams, while intoxicated, shot and killed Josie Tillman, a woman with whom he had quarreled.

An Appeal for Help.

Carbonado, Wash., Dec. 13.—A relief committee was organized here today, and an appeal issued for aid for the destitute families. Seven bodies were taken from the mine today.

SEIZURE OF SUBIG.

Important Capture by General Grant's Command.

Manila, Dec. 13.—The advance guard of General Grant's command, under Major Spence, arrived at Olongapo, Subig bay, at night, December 9, which place was occupied with little resistance, the enemy fleeing. Major Spence had an arduous march over the mountain trails.

Yesterday morning the Baltimore and Oregon and a chartered transport arrived at Olongapo from Manila. The navy was disappointed to find the army in possession of the place, which they had hoped to capture. A detachment of marines, under Captain Myers, occupied the navy-yard at Olongapo, and will hold and occupy it as a naval station. The yard consists of seven new, large buildings, and some repair and machinery shops, all damaged by the bombardment of September 23.

During the morning of December 10 the navy transported Major Spence's command from Olongapo to the town of Subig, five miles distant. The enemy was seen deserting Subig as the troops landed, and the latter occupied it without resistance. They found the place abandoned by the retreating enemy, who fired a few shots. The Americans deployed to the right and left of the town, and killed one of the enemy.

General Grant and the remainder of his command arrived at Olongapo yesterday afternoon. He will proceed to Subig and join Major Spence. General Grant will move north along the coast, and will effect a juncture with the Twenty-fifth infantry, under Colonel Andrew S. Bart, who was reported eight miles from Iba, December 7. The enemy encountered in General Grant's advance fled to the mountains and scattered. General Grant is not garrisoning the towns he occupies. No casualties are reported in his command.

THE DEBATE OPENED.

House Takes Up Consideration of the Currency Bill.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The feature of the opening day of the debate on the currency bill in the house was the speech of Dulliver of Iowa. It was characterized by all the wit and eloquence for which the Iowan is noted, and held the members, without regard to party, for more than an hour. Dulliver declared that the least doubt in the Republican party as to the wisdom of enacting the gold-standard law had been removed by the experience of the business world during the past three years. He scored Mr. Bryan and generally ridiculed the alleged false prophecies of the Democrats in 1896.

DeArmond of Missouri was the heavy gun on the Democratic side. He warned the Republicans from the West that they could not deceive their constituents in the coming congressional elections by claiming that they had yielded to the wisdom of their colleagues in caucus. Overstreet of Indiana opened the debate in support of the bill, and Maddox of Georgia replied to him.

McClellan of New York was the only other speaker today. He announced his opposition to the bill on the ground that it would contract the currency, extinguish bank notes and enhance the value of coin bonds. He appealed to those of his Democratic colleagues from New York who it is reported intend to vote for the bill not to do so.

Lighthouses for Alaska.

After a conference with the chief of the lighthouse board, Representative Cushman of Washington has concluded to introduce a bill appropriating \$500,000 for the erection of suitable lighthouses and signals along the Alaskan coast. While this sum will not begin to supply a sufficient number of aids to navigation, it will be a starter, and it is hoped that further appropriations will follow. Mr. Cushman intends to insert a provision in the bill making the Alaskan coast, together with the Puget sound shore, from Cape Flattery, around to the boundary line, a separate lighthouse district, to be known as district No. 17.

Sympathy for the Boers.

Washington, Dec. 13.—An appeal by Mason for an expression of sympathy for the Transvaal republic in its war with Great Britain was the feature of the senate proceedings today. It was the first formal address delivered in the senate this session, and was listened to with thoughtful attention by both the members and by a large gallery of auditors. The resolution upon which Mason based his address was referred to the foreign relations committee. Lodge, considering it too delicate a question in view of the position of this government to pass upon without serious consideration. No business of importance was transacted by the senate.

Bomb Destroyed Spanish Theater.

Madrid, Dec. 13.—Durgin a performance yesterday at the theater at Murcia, capital of the province of that name, a bomb was exploded, fire broke out and the theater was destroyed. The audience, however, got out without serious accident.

Powder Mills Blown Up.

Pottstown, Pa., Dec. 13.—The powder works of James S. Miller, near Sumnerstown, were completely wrecked by an explosion today, and three men were killed and several others were injured.

Bottle Paper From the Niagara.

Fort Colborne, Ont., Dec. 13.—A bottle containing a piece of paper on which was written the following, apparently by the captain of the foundered steamer Niagara, was found on the beach today:

"Expect to go down any minute. Captain McGlory. Good-bye. Steamer Niagara foundered about three miles from Port Maitland."

Pieces of the wreck identified as belonging to the Niagara have drifted ashore.