

AN ADVANCE NECESSARY

Plans of the British to Relieve Besieged Towns.

Impressions That Butler Will Soon Bring on a Formidable Engagement—English Losses at Mafeking Reported From Transvaal Sources. Lord Roberts' Successor in Ireland.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—There is a general impression here that the New Year will not be many days old before an advance movement in force upon the Boers will make a material change in the South African situation. It is felt that the relief of Mafeking, Kimberley, and Ladysmith is becoming hourly a more imperative necessity. Unless the investment of these places by the Boers is dispensed before the arrival of General Roberts, when an entire new plan of operations will be inaugurated, the chances are that by forcing their surrender the enemy may receive such material success as to greatly enhance the problems facing Roberts and Kitchener when they arrive at the Cape.

The War Office freely admits that General Buller's army has been heavily strengthened since the repulse at Tugela River. This re-enforcement, it is declared, does not allow an impression that a suspension of aggressive hostilities can be favored.

The clearer the way can be for Roberts the better, is the argument of military men in London. Another heavy engagement within ten days or two weeks from now will not cause a surprise. A Boer report from Mafeking in regard to a recent fight there is that the British losses were 109, and those of the Boers nine. The Duke of Connaught has been appointed commander-in-chief of the forces in Ireland in place of Field Marshal Lord Roberts.

A "Central News" despatch from Chebere of today's date says: "A native state that General White made a sortie from Ladysmith yesterday (Friday), carried a strong Boer position at the point of the bayonet, and captured a big gun. The statement is confirmed somewhat by the strange silence of the Boers besieging Ladysmith since yesterday."

NO SORTIE FROM LADYSMITH. The Capture of Umbulwani Hill Not Confirmed.

FRERE CAMP, Dec. 29.—(Delayed in transmission.)—Colonel Sandbach, formerly military secretary to Lord Curzon of Kedleston, the Viceroy of India, has been appointed Chief of the Intelligence Department.

The rumor that General White made a sortie from Ladysmith today and captured Umbulwani Hill is not confirmed or believed here. There was a great explosion in the vicinity of the hill at half past 10 o'clock this morning, but it was probably caused by a shell from Ladysmith bursting in the Boer magazine. Native sources report that they overheard the Boers making plans to meet the English in the open country, but they (the Boers) have miles of wire entanglements in the neighborhood of Colenso where an attack is expected.

A great many Americans are serving here with the British mounted brigade. There are seventy-five in one command of 456. The British officers say they are excellent soldiers and that more of them would be welcome. The presence of the Americans is regarded by the British officers as an indication of the friendship between the two nations.

FIGHTING AT MAFEKING. Boer Commandant Synman Reports a British Attack.

PRETORIA, Dec. 26.—(Delayed in transmission.)—Commandant Synman reports from Malopo, December 24, as follows: "The enemy at Mafeking attacked our fort with cannon, Maxim, and an armored train. The fighting was carried to the walls of the fort. We retained the fort. The British loss is reported to have been fifty-five."

A GERMAN SHIP CAPTURED. The Bundesrath Taken as a Prize by British Cruisers.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The German East African Line steamship Bundesrath has been captured as a prize by British warships and taken to Durban, Natal.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—According to the Loyds the Bundesrath sailed from Hamburg, November 8, bound for Tanga. A despatch to the "New York Sun," from Berlin, November 30, stated that the "Kreuz Zeitung" printed a sensational story to the effect that Arthur Chamberlain, brother of Colonial Secretary Chamberlain, and head of the Kynochs, the great gunmaking firm, had been supplying the Boers with arms and ammunition. It was further stated that the German mail steamer Bundesrath had made two trips to carry this war material which was shipped as ironware.

SERVICE OFFERS FROM INDIA. Troops and Horses Tendered for Fighting the Boers.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 30.—The rulers of Kashmir, Mysore, and Jodhpur have offered troops and horses to the government for service in South Africa. The government has accepted the offer. Jodhpur is a famous horse-breeding centre.

Consul Hay Leaves London. LONDON, Dec. 30.—Adelbert S. Hay, the recently appointed American Consul at Pretoria, left London today for Southampton, whence he will take a steamer for South Africa.

Kipling Ill With Influenza. LONDON, Dec. 30.—Rudyard Kipling is confined to his bed with an attack of influenza. His illness is not of a nature to cause anxiety.

General Davis Ordered Home. Secretary Root said today that Governor General Davis, of Porto Rico, had been ordered to Washington for a consultation regarding the future of that island.

MR. BOUTELLE'S CONDITION.

The Maine Representative Said to Have Lost His Mind. BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 30.—Representative Charles A. Boutelle, of Maine, who is confined in the McLean Hospital, at Waverly, has been practically pronounced insane by his physician, Dr. Daniel A. Robinson, who came here from Bangor to attend him. While it is barely possible that Mr. Boutelle may recover his physical health and vigor, it is not at all probable that he will ever again be mentally sane. The family of the stricken man is with him doing everything for his comfort. Many letters and telegrams from all sections of the country have been received by E. P. Boutelle, brother of the Representative, expressing sympathy and sorrow for the stricken statesman.

A friend of the family said today that with the passing of Representative Boutelle Maine loses the last of the "Big Four" which made the Pine Tree State a power in the lower branch of Congress. The first to go was Milliken, who died early in the last Congress. His death was followed by Dingley, who died last winter. The resignation of Reed, and now Boutelle, whose mind is gone.

A BLIND WIFE SLAYER FREED. Livingston Freed in Baltimore That He Acted in Self-Defence.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 30.—Franklin B. Livingston, the blind man who late on Christmas night strangled his wife, Dora Livingston, and who on the following day paid a man a dollar to lead him to the police station, has been discharged from custody by Judge Steubing. The coroner's jury having decided that the murder was committed in self-defence, though the coroner committed Livingston on a charge of murder.

The evidence before the coroner's jury showed that Livingston had been attacked in the middle of the night by his wife and that he choked her to death to save his own life. Witnesses testified that they had heard Mrs. Livingston threaten to kill her husband, and that a revolver was found in her room when the police searched the place.

RUN OVER BY A TRAIN. A Former Army Surgeon and His Adopted Son Killed.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 30.—Major Wycliffe Smith and an adopted boy, Francis Sausa, were instantly killed by a Washington train about two miles from this city yesterday evening. They were driving from the former's farm, and were so muffled in the buggy that they failed to hear the train approaching. Major Smith was surgeon of the One-hundred and Sixty-first Indiana Volunteers, which was in service in Cuba. He took charge of the post hospital when Sausa broke out in a contagious disease, which was cured by a medicine recommended by Gen. Fitzhugh Lee. The boy Sausa was a native white brought home by him to be educated.

POISONED BY APPLE BUTTER. Three Children Die at Bloomsburg, Pa.

BLOOMSBURG, Pa., Dec. 30.—Three children of Henry Carr, near Jerseytown, have within the past week died from the effects of eating apple butter that was permitted to remain in a copper kettle over night, thus becoming poisonous. The children gleefully scraped what apple butter adhered to the kettle after their mother had finished dipping it out. The parents are none of the mixture.

A CENTURY BIRTHDAY PARTY. Celebration of a New York Woman's Hundredth Year of Life.

DUNKIRK, N. Y., Dec. 30.—Mrs. Hilda Miner celebrated her 100th birthday yesterday at her home with her daughter, Mrs. H. D. Miner, in Feronia, three miles south of Dunkirk. She has seven grand-children, nineteen great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren. She possesses a clear mind, good memory, excellent health, and a remarkably amiable and cheerful disposition.

There are two other persons in Chaunquas county who have lived beyond their 100th birthday. Ambrose Rhancett, of Mayville, who was 109 last month, and Mrs. Doty, of Freewenburg, who is in her 104th year.

AN IRON AND STEEL DEAL. The Capital of the Lackawanna Company Increased to \$25,000,000.

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 30.—At a special meeting of the stockholders of the Lackawanna Iron and Steel Company here it has been agreed to increase the capital stock from \$5,750,000 to \$25,000,000, so as to enable the company to take advantage of any opportunities that may arise for bettering its conditions, as was given out officially at the conclusion of the meeting. President Walter Scranton, Secretary P. H. Higgins, and Messrs Taylor, Jr. of New York, were at attendance at the meeting. The vote was strongly in favor of the increase.

Col. A. D. Blair, one of the local stockholders, said there was no immediate purpose in increasing the stock. The question of moving to Buffalo has been discussed, he said, but not any more so than several other projects. It is just as likely as not that the mills will remain just as they are, he said.

The city is very much exercised over the status of the mills being taken away from Scranton. They employ about 5,000 hands, and about one-sixth of the city's population is dependent upon them.

ARMY MEASURES IN GREECE. A Bill to Be Presented for Military Reorganization.

ATHENS, Dec. 30.—The government will present a bill to the legislative assembly providing for the reorganization of the entire army under command of the Crown Prince. It will be suggested that a foreign general—probably a German—be asked to reorganize the army.

A WRECK IDENTIFIED. The Ship Ashore Near Dunegness Known to Be the Pelotas.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The steamship reported ashore near Dunegness in the Pelotas, of the South American-Hamburg line, which sailed from Santos on December 7. It is reported that 800 passengers were on board, all of whom have been saved by lifeboats from the shore. There is little chance of getting the vessel off, as her back is broken.

Charged With Wife Murder. PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 30.—Edward Faust was arrested late last night on suspicion of having killed his wife. Faust called in a doctor in the afternoon and told him he was unable to rouse his wife, whom he had found lying on the bed asleep when he came home for dinner. The woman was dead. At an autopsy held it was found that her back was broken.

LAWTON'S FUNERAL RITES

The Dead General's Body Placed on a Homebound Transport.

Taken From the Vault at Pano Cemetery—An Honorable Escort From His Temporary Resting Place. Every Flag in Manila at Half-Mast. Prominent Officers in Attendance.

MANILA, Dec. 30.—General Lawton's funeral took place this morning. At 9 o'clock the artillery began firing a half hour salute of thirteen guns. Thousands of natives in carriages crowded the approaches to the Pano Cemetery, where the body had been temporarily placed in a vault. It was almost impossible to pass through the crowd, but later on the Filipino police arrived, and opened a passageway for traffic. Officers and guests arrived at the same time from all directions.

At 9:45 a. m. Trumpeter Haberkanon said "Taps," after which Chaplain Merrin had offered prayer in the chapel. General Otis was present. At 10 o'clock the casket was carried to a caisson by members of General Lawton's staff, who were the actual pallbearers.

The march began shortly afterward. The procession was headed by the native police band and the Twentieth United States Infantry. General Hall commanded the first division, which included four troops of the Fourth Cavalry, Lawton's old command, and the only survivors. Chaplain Pierce marched behind the caisson. Next came General Lawton's horse, led by an orderly. Then followed the pallbearers in three carriages. Next in line were Generals Wheeler, Bates, Forsyth, Kobbe, and Schwan. Admiral Watson marched beside General Wheeler. A naval battalion followed.

General Otis and his staff in carriages were next in line. After them came the foreign consuls in the full uniforms of their countries, the Presidents and the head men of the tribes of Luzon. The march from the cemetery led down to the Luneta, which was lined with troops. At the Andra Monument the procession halted and Chaplain Pierce pronounced a benediction. Thence the march was resumed to Pano and the caisson was finally placed on a launch and transferred to the transport Thomas which will probably sail for San Francisco tonight.

Major Edward and Captain Sewell and King will accompany the body to the United States as a guard of honor. At the request of Mrs. Lawton, Chaplain Pierce will also sail on the transport and will conduct the final services at Arlington Cemetery.

At noon when the launch sailed away for the transport the usual volleys were omitted. A majority of the towns from Manila to Tayug, where General Lawton had established a civil government, sent representatives to the funeral. They were dressed in the deepest mourning and brought magnificent wreaths and engrossed resolutions. Yesterday committees of girls laden with flowers came from various towns to Manila to console with Mrs. Lawton.

At the funeral today all the foreigners brought flowers and expressed the deepest sympathy. The Filipinos also brought flowers and expressed their sympathy with Mrs. Lawton. Every flag in Manila was at half mast during the ceremonies.

SURPLUS IN THE TREASURY. That for the Year Expected to Be Nearly \$60,000,000.

The accumulation of money in the Treasury has been going on at a remarkable rate during December. All the efforts of the department to put money back into the market by the purchase of bonds, the anticipation of interest, and the transfer of funds to the banks have not prevented a surplus of nearly \$7,000,000 in ordinary receipts during the month and an accumulation of net cash amounting to \$297,000,000.

The nominal surplus for December stood yesterday at \$5,965,791, but the amount would have been nearly \$11,000,000 if interest due in January had not been paid this month. The surplus for the past six months would stand at nearly \$25,000,000 if the January interest had not been anticipated, and from present appearances the surplus for the year in ordinary receipts will be at least \$60,000,000.

NOT ALLOWED SEA PAY. A Decision in the Case of the Widow of Lieutenant Blandin.

Recently the Auditor of the Treasury for the War Department disallowed the claim of Mrs. Mary Connie Blandin for one year's sea pay for her late husband, Lieut. J. J. Blandin. The claimant appealed to the Comptroller of the Treasury, who affirmed the decision of the Auditor.

In presenting her claim, Mrs. Blandin stated that her husband was a lieutenant of the junior grade on the Maine at the time of the destruction of that vessel. He was subsequently promoted to a full lieutenant, but on July 16, 1888, he died. His illness was the result of a shock to his nervous system received when the explosion took place that sank the battleship. The Comptroller says, in his decision, that before filing her claim for a year's salary for her husband as lieutenant, Mrs. Blandin had accepted \$1,800, the sea pay of a lieutenant of the junior grade, and that under the statute governing the case, such acceptance precluded her forever from receiving a further sum.

SHIPS COALED AT SEA. Successful Test by the Navy of the Miller System.

Rear Admiral Bradford has received the report of the naval board which conducted the trial of the Miller coal system, using the battleship Massachusetts and the collier Marcellus. The tests were highly successful, 800-pound bags of coal being transferred by means of towing lines used as an aerial railway. The apparatus will be of great value in the time of war when ships are unable to put into port for coal.

A Great Hat Trade Went View. LONDON, Dec. 30.—A hat trade trust is about to be formed in England, with a capital of \$2,000,000.

Flynn's Business College, 8th and K. 85-Census Office Examination—85.

HELD FOR A RANSOM.

A. J. Seligman's Unusual Story of a Troublesome Kidnaper.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—After being kidnaped by miners and released on payment of \$10,000 ransom, A. J. Seligman, son of the late Jesse Seligman, has returned from Helena, Mont., with his wife, and will join the banking firm of J. & W. Seligman.

For three days the banker was held in a miner's cabin near Wickes, and had to live mainly on bacon and coffee while arrangements were being made to secure the money for his release, the amount claimed by employes of the Gregory silver mine to be in arrears.

Mrs. Seligman, who was at Helena, five miles away, was notified by courier, procured the money, and started for the cabin. It was after dark when Mrs. Seligman arrived at Wickes, and too late to make the mountain journey alone. So she sat up all night with the money, though this was unknown to some of her husband's captors.

It was after dark when Mrs. Seligman arrived at Wickes, and too late to make the mountain journey alone. So she sat up all night with the money, though this was unknown to some of her husband's captors. She was accompanied by a guide, she proceeded to the place where her husband was a prisoner. When the money was paid he was released, and both were carefully escorted to Wickes again. The miners had been very kind to him, he said.

KILLED A HIGHWAYMAN. Street Car Passengers Prevent Robbery in Seattle.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 30.—In an attempt to hold up a Ballard street car last night a highwayman was shot and killed. There were eight passengers aboard when two men wearing masks boarded the car at the front and the other at the rear. One of the passengers, named Plimpton, opened fire on the highwayman entering the car from the rear and three shots were returned. One broke Plimpton's arm and another entered his breast.

A passenger standing on the front platform fired on the robber at the front end of the car and at the first shot this robber fled from the car and hid to the woods. At the firing on the rear end he escaped the second robber took to the woods. Buses passed through the clothing of two other passengers. The highwayman secured nothing.

When the police found near the scene of the hold-up, the body of one of the robbers. He had been killed by a bullet from a passer's pistol. The body is still unidentified.

A BRONZE STATUE OF HOBART. One to Be Erected at Paterson in the President's Honor.

PATERSON, N. J., Dec. 30.—The subcommittee on the proposed Hobart memorial has made its report to the general committee. The report recommends a bronze statue of heroic size to be placed on a pedestal of granite, the base of the statue to indicate the attitude of Mr. Hobart when standing before the United States Senate.

The site of the statue, the committee suggests, should be on the Market Street side of the city hall. The cost of the statue, the report states, will be \$15,000, a sum that could be easily raised by subscription.

KILLED CHILDREN AND DIED. Mrs. Noack Sent Word to Husband Announcing Her Suicide.

WINSTED, Conn., Dec. 30.—Mrs. Bertha Noack, a middle-aged woman, who lived on a farm in Bakersville, swallowed a teaspoonful of arsenic yesterday and died this morning. She became despondent because her husband had been drinking heavily and it is said, abused her. She had four children, the eldest only eight years. She kissed and said good-bye to each of them, telling the eldest boy to run to his father and say: "Mamma has taken the poison."

The boy found his father in the barn and secured the arsenic. The nearest telephone was two miles away, and four hours elapsed before a physician arrived. All efforts to save her life proved futile.

LOST HER BY TELEGRAPH. Why W. F. Beck Has Sued the Western Union for \$10,000.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 30.—W. F. Beck, a planter of Bibb county, has filed suit in the United States court against the Western Union Telegraph Company for \$10,000 damages for loss of a wife.

Beck, Bagdad, and an unknown were seeking the hand of Miss Rose Ward, of Centreville. Miss Ward sent a message to each of them on the same day saying she would reach the first man to reach her. The young men live in widely different places. Ragland was the first to reach Miss Ward and wedded her.

Beck, who was at Repton, 200 miles away, telegraphed her to give him sufficient time to arrive, and to tell her to await his letter. The third man missed his train. Beck alleges in his suit that the telegraph operator at Centreville was instructed to deliver his telegram to Miss Ward immediately, and he claims long delay in delivery.

DEATH OF THE OLDEST MASON. George Blakeman Expires at His Home in Derby, Conn.

DERBY, Conn., Dec. 30.—The oldest Mason in the United States, George Blakeman, who passed the century mark on October 19, died last night. He had lived here all his life. "I've never taken a drop of medicine since I was twenty-one, and I never drink liquor," has been Mr. Blakeman's answer to all questions as to his long life and the secret of it.

In November, 1829, Mr. Blakeman was initiated in the King Hiram Lodge of Masons, and was a member till he died. It was his ambition to live until January 1, 1899, when he could say that he had lived in three centuries.

A REGIMENT POISONED

Beef on a Train-Port Sickness the Thirty-fifth Infantry.

One Man Dead and the Other Troops Seriously Ill on the Trip to Manila—Four Thousand Pounds of Meat Destroyed—The News Came From at the War Department.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—The news has reached this city from Honolulu that the Thirty-fifth Regiment of Volunteers, while on their way to Manila, were poisoned by ptomaines in bad beef, and that for a while many deaths were expected. According to the report, one man did die, and 1,500 pounds of the meat were thrown overboard.

It appears from the stories told that when the Government transport Rio de Janeiro, with the Thirty-fifth Regiment, United States Volunteers, on board, was two days out from Honolulu and proceeding to Manila, the regiment was in excellent health. The boys were full of spirits and anxious to reach the Philippines for active service.

At the usual hour the dinner mess was served on October 22. The mess consisted principally of meat. The volunteers all had the excellent appetites of healthy men, and the meat was eaten freely by nearly of them.

There were a few, however, who detected a disagreeable odor and flavor to the beef, and they declined to eat it. So far as has been learned these men had no suspicion at the time that the meat was unfit for use, but it was declined simply because it was to them unpalatable.

The great majority of the men were too hungry to notice until too late, that the meat did not appear to be as it should, but nothing in particular was thought about it until Private Patrick Cleary, about two hours after dinner, began complaining. Dr. John C. Boone, the ship's surgeon, was informed of the condition of Cleary. After a careful diagnosis of the case he discovered symptoms of poisoning. He ordered to be called Contract Surgeon Fry and the two physicians agreed as to the diagnosis.

By the time remedies had been administered to Cleary the surgeons were notified that several other men had become ill. It was soon learned that they suffered from the same complaint that afflicted Cleary. These men were attended to as rapidly as possible, but the number of reports of volunteers taken suddenly ill came so fast that it became necessary to call upon the entire hospital corps to attend to them.

The condition became appalling. Nearly the entire membership of the Thirty-fifth Regiment were dangerously ill and all evidently suffered from poisoning. Day and night the surgeons worked over the men, but when on October 29, two days after becoming ill, Private Patrick Cleary died, the surgeons looked very serious.

They renewed their efforts to save the men, and their earnest work was partly crowned by success. The lives of the rest were saved, but every man who had eaten the meat was ailing. One line of the transport had reached Manila, a regiment of invalids left the vessel instead of a full complement of able-bodied and healthy troops.

When the transport left Manila on her return trip the members of the Thirty-fifth Regiment were only convalescent. That there is no doubt as to poisonous meat having been the cause of the violent illness of the troops is borne out by the actions of the surgeons, who, after a careful inspection of the meat, caused 1,500 pounds of the putrid beef to be thrown overboard the day that Cleary died, and when the Rio de Janeiro reached Manila it became necessary to throw overboard 3,500 pounds of the death-containing meat.

Surgeon General Sternberg has received from Colonel Woodhall at Manila a copy of a report made to him by Assistant Surgeon C. W. H. Pusey on board the transport Rio de Janeiro, giving the particulars of sickness from ptomaine poisoning of troops of the Thirty-fifth Infantry on board that vessel. The report says: "I assumed charge of the transport at Honolulu. There were 671 enlisted men and 26 officers of the Thirty-fifth Volunteer Infantry under command of Lieut. Col. F. H. Putnam on board for Manila. The health of the troops was excellent until October 22 when twenty-five cases of gastro enteritis occurred among the troops. The symptoms were that of ptomaine poisoning and at the same time was attributed to the use of canned goods, which were purchased by the men from the commissary store on board the transport. Under this impression further sale of the goods was forbidden. On the evening of October 23 and morning of October 24, 289 enlisted men and two officers were suffering to a greater or lesser extent from ptomaine poisoning."

After describing the symptoms, the surgeon refers to one particular case of an enlisted man who died in explanation eight hours after attacked. He explained that "It might be well to state that in this particular case was evidence of disipation, and the case was undoubtedly addicted to the use of morphine. He was an old soldier, this being his third enlistment, which was a grave mistake, as he was physically unable to perform the duties of a soldier."

"From the greater number of cases we became convinced that the cause of the trouble did not exist in the use of canned goods. After a careful enquiry among the company commanders I found that all who were sick ate of the same meat issued to the mess at night. The only two officers who were attacked were the only ones who ate at this particular mess. We became convinced that in this fresh meat ptomaine poison existed."

Surgeon Fry also sent a letter to the adjutant of the regiment while at sea, remarking that there was no doubt of the fact that his opinion existed in the meat, and that while the opinion was held that were the fresh meat properly trimmed and dressed there might be no danger in its use, he could not under the circumstances recommend its use on board the transport.

The adjutant of the regiment issued an order forbidding the furnishing of fresh meat and permitted the sale of canned food. This is the first information to reach the War Department regarding the fresh beef supply on board the chartered transport going to Manila. Some time ago the attention of the department was called to the decay of fresh beef on the transport City of Sydney, and an investigation was made by the army officers at San Francisco, which showed that none of the transports chartered to carry the last volunteer regiments to the Philippines was fitted up with refrigerators. The officials were under orders to get the vessels in shape within considerable rapidity, and instead of refrigerators, ice boxes were placed aboard each vessel and the fresh beef packed in ice.

Driven Insane by His Wife's Death. ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 30.—Driven mad by the death of his wife, Lewis Peacock was today taken to the Milledgeville Asylum. He was adjudged insane yesterday before Judge Judye.

The Treasury Closes Until Tuesday. The different offices in the Treasury Department closed at noon today, and no business will be transacted by the Department until Tuesday.

BURNED OUT IN CHICAGO.

Big Blaze in a Business District of the City.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—A bad fire broke out early this morning in the seven-story building at 220-222 Monroe Street, and gave the fire department a hard fight. It started apparently on the second and sixth floors simultaneously, and the building and the stocks of its various tenants proved almost a total loss. Owing to the intense cold, the firemen were greatly hampered in their work. Ladders, hose, and the street workmen thickly coated ice and the work was difficult and dangerous. Special calls were sent in, and forty engines and a fireboat were hurried to the scene. The total losses in about \$500,000.

Among the heaviest losers was the firm of Edwards, Stanwood & Co., boots and shoes, which recently succeeded to the business of Phelps, Dodge & Palmer. E. P. Edwards, head of the firm, said the stock was valued at \$250,000. Other losers were Bush & Simons Company, wholesale hats, 220 Monroe Street; Harper, Clark Company, second floor; Jacob Witkowski, clothing, 170 Franklin Street; Wolley & Co., woolen goods, 220 Monroe Street; Schwartz & Kline, wholesale clothing, second floor, 175-181 Franklin Street; O'Connor Brothers, clothing, fourth floor, rear end, Schwartz Brothers & Meyer, seventh floor.

The J. W. Butler Paper Company, at 215 Monroe Street, suffered a loss of probably \$50,000. Across the alley to the face building of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad Company caught fire, but was saved from destruction by hard work.

DAILY STANDS FIRM. The New Jersey Representative Again Attacks Silver.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., Dec. 30.—When the attention of Congressman William D. Daly was called to an interview with William J. Bryan in which the latter states that the Congressman was evidently misquoted when he said "free silver" is dead, Mr. Daly became indignant and vehemently declared he had not been misquoted.

"When I said free silver was dead I meant it," he exclaimed. "I can't help what Mr. Bryan may think about it. I have always recognized him as the leader of the Democracy, the most available candidate for President, but in so doing I cannot close my eyes to the fact that free silver is in its grave."

This fact was clearly demonstrated in the vote on the Currency bill. With the majority of my colleagues I voted against it, but the vote showed conclusively that there are many Democrats who will never stand for free silver.

A VICTIM OF DYNAMITE. An Assistant Postmaster Blown to Death in Pennsylvania.

BELLEFONTONE, Dec. 30.—An attempt was made to blow up dynamite last night, and as a result the dead and mangled form of Grant Bathurst, merchant and assistant postmaster at Toite, lies at his home in that place. Three other men were seriously injured, and a large building blown to pieces.

The explosion took place in the scale-house of the Bellefonte Lime Company, at Salona. The dynamite used in the charge was frozen solid, and it was brought in the scalehouse and laid around a heated stove.

The men were busily talking when the explosion took place, and the entire building went to pieces. Mr. Bathurst was blown fifty feet into the air. He was killed instantly, and when picked up it was found that both his legs had been blown off. Mr. Bathurst was thirty-five years of age, and leaves a wife and one child.

Strange to say, there were three children in the building at the time of the explosion and none injured. SUICIDE OF A BOY. Caught Stealing, Fifteen-Year-Old Beatty Kills Himself.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., Dec. 30.—Elmer Beatty, the fifteen-year-old son of Laura Beatty, committed suicide at Marietta last night by taking laudanum.

For several years the boy had been employed as a carrier and collector by the proprietors of the "Marietta Register," who recently discovered that he had misappropriated about \$200 in cash.

His shortage was brought to his notice he confessed, and a few hours later presented a letter which he claimed to have received from an uncle at Pittsburgh, who proposed to make the amount of money he wanted to see him.

The letter was so plain a forgery that it only served to get him into deeper trouble. Fearing the threatened prosecution he hurried home, swallowed the poison, and died soon thereafter. He was a bright youth and stood well in his classes at the high school. His mother is prostrated.

WARNED BY FAITHFUL DOGS. A Farmer and a Child Prevented From Being Burned to Death.

FELTON, Del., Dec. 30.—The fierce barking of their dogs aroused the family of Farmer Job Kemp, last night, barely in time to escape cremation. The house was on fire, and escape by the stairs was impossible. The father hurriedly threw two mattresses and some blankets out of the second-story window, and the members of his family dropped from the window on to the street as a time.

BRIDGETON, N. J., Dec. 30.—An infant daughter of George Jones, who lives just outside Bridgeton. The child was playing about a large Christmas tree that had been trimmed for her, when she pulled the whole thing over upon her. Her clothing was set on fire. A pet dog's barks called in the child's mother who extinguished the flames.

McUIN HELD FOR MURDER

His Victim, Robert E. Turner, Dies of His Injuries.

Witnesses at the Coroner's Inquest Tell of the Trouble at the Crown Boarding House That Resulted in the Crime—The Defendant Charged When He Committed the Deed.

Charles L. McUin was today held by a jury of inquest to be responsible for the death of Robert E. Turner at the Emergency Hospital at 9:30 o'clock this morning. The jury also ordered that McUin be held for the action of the grand jury. Coroner Carr then committed the man to the District jail to await further proceedings.

The inquest was convened at No. 6