The Evening Times

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READY TO FIGHT ROBERTS

Boers Strongly Entrenched Four Miles From the British Front.

Shots Exchanged With Remington's Scouts—Burghers Probably Commanded by Botha, Delarey, and De Wet—The Evident Intention Is to Hamper the English Advance. Fears in London of an Appalling Casualty List From Buller—The Siege of Mafeking Reported to Have Been Raised by the Federal Forces—The Story Comes From Agents of the Transvaal in Brussels, and Is Generally Believed.

LONDON, March 3.—News of fighting by Roberts' army is expected at any moment. The latest despatches from his headquarters at Osfontein say that the Boers have been definitely located. They are only four miles from the British front and they are apparently awaiting Roberts' advance. Shots have been exchanged already, and Colonel Remington, commanding Remington's scouts, has had his horse shot from under him.

The Boer force appears to number about 6,000 men. Their lines extend eight miles. Their left rests on a hill and their right on the river. It is believed that they are under command of Generals Botha, Delarey, and De Wet. It is thought that they may be awaiting re-enforcements from Natal under General Joubert, but it is more likely that they do not intend to offer serious resistance, but will merely seek to retard Roberts' advance while the main army prepares for a stand that they hope will result in another Spion Kop.

Now that England has recovered from her delirious joy regarding the relief of Ladysmith and the capture of Cronje, the public is becoming anxious regarding further operations. The casualty lists are feared and the announcement of Kruger that it will cost 25,000 killed and wounded to pass the next line of defence is causing deep anxiety to many.

"Mafeking is safe. The Boers have raised the siege and have retired from the place." This is the report that reached London this morning. It came from Brussels, and it was given out by the Transvaal agency there. It is credited here, as it has been expected that Mafeking would not remain long under fire after Kimberley had been relieved.

The Boer agents, who announced the abandonment of the siege, say that the step was taken for strategic reasons. This tends to prove the truth of the report. The strategic reasons were probably the fear of the advance of a strong British force from Kimberley and the cutting off of the Boer forces operating in front of the town. On the other hand, it is declared the report may be an attempt to mislead Lord Roberts for a day or two.

The Siege of Mafeking.

The siege of Mafeking has lasted for 140 days. When the Boers closed in on the town, Colonel Baden-Powell, of the Fifth Dragoons, was in command, and throughout the investment he has kept the garrison in such a condition that time and time again attacks by the Boers have been brilliantly repulsed. Mafeking was where Jamesen rounded up his raiding party, and it was thence he started to capture Johannesburg. Wherefore the Boers were exceedingly anxious to capture the place.

Altogether there were about 2,000 soldiers in the town. Among the officers were a son of Lord Salisbury; Lord Edward Cecil, a grand-son of William IV; Captain Fitzclarence, and Lieutenant Cavendish-Bentick. Lady Sarah Wilson and Winston Churchill were also in Mafeking, but the latter, while carrying despatches for a London newspaper, was captured and taken to Pretoria. Lady Wilson was exchanged for a notorious horse thief, named Viljoe, despite her protests.

Colonel Baden-Powell and his aides devised many ingenious schemes for avoiding Boer shell and bullets. The streets of the town were tunneled and everybody lived in burrows during the day. These were connected by telephones with lookout stations, where watchers with telescopes kept the people informed as to when the Boers were preparing to fire one of their siege guns. Big gongs placed throughout the city also gave the alarm so that when a Boer shell fell it buried through empty streets or exploded harmlessly against bombproofs.

The Boers occasionally made all preparation for firing a siege gun, held the fire and then laughed at the frantic efforts of the inhabitants to reach shelter. They sometimes held the fire and used it later without preparation with serious effects. The last reported firing was on February 24, when the Boers made an attack in force on the town, and were repulsed. Forty of them were killed.

Colonel Plumer, who was stationed at Fort Tuli, in Rhodesia, started seven weeks ago to the relief of Mafeking, but got no further south than Gaberones where he was halted by the Boers and has remained ever since.

WHITE LED THE SINGING.

Scenes of Rejoicing After the Siege of Ladysmith Was Raised.

LONDON, March 3.—A despatch from Ladysmith states that when General White reached the postoffice after the arrival of Lord Dundonald's cavalry, he was called upon for a speech. He said:

"People of Ladysmith, I thank you all for the heroic, patient manner in which you have assisted me during the siege. It hurt me terribly to cut down the rations so, but, thank God, we have kept the flag flying."

General White, who was very much affected, then led the singing of the British national anthem. The correspondent says: "In the semi-darkness the appearance of the white-haired general leading hundreds of bareheaded men in the singing made a picture that will never be forgotten."

FIGHTING LYDDITE FUMES.

Boers Drink Vinegar to Neutralize the Effect of the Gas.

CAPE TOWN, March 3.—The "Volksiem," the official organ of the Transvaal Government at Pretoria, states that the Boers consume large quantities of diluted vinegar in order to overcome the lassitude caused by the fumes from the lyddite shells.

The "South African News" accuses Rudyard Kipling of leading a mob of invaders into the Parliament House at Cape Town. The paper bases this statement on the ground that Kipling's poetry is consistent with such conduct.

GENERAL METHUEN REMOVED.

Reported to Be Acting as Governor of Kimberley District.

LONDON, March 3.—The most interesting war news in the London papers today comes from the experts. The "London Leader" for the first time throws some light upon the mystery that has heretofore surrounded the inactivity of Lord Methuen. He was removed, the "Leader" says, because of a scandal, but has been saved from disgrace by Cecil Rhodes. The war expert of the "Morning Leader" says: "Some of the military men still left at home are by no means comfortable over the abounding jubilation that followed the victories of Lord Roberts and General Buller.

"If," said one of them yesterday, 'we go half demented with joy over the partial defeat of two little states, possessing less than 80,000 adult males, what would be the case if we won or were beaten badly by one of our own size? Those who have been yelling their gratification would, in a contrary event, have been threatening vengeance on an incapable ministry.'

"It has long been a serious question with all thinking soldiers and the events of the last few days have given it fresh life. Did we lost a fleet Goschen might dangle from a lamppost in front of Nelson's Pillar. Gentlemen who were boisterous last night and the night before would, if given the other side of the shield, have made the throttles of the executive heads feel a bit queer.

"Lord Roberts is already face to face with a re-formed enemy. Probably it will not give him much trouble. But there it is, and not so far away, either.

"We are bombarded by correspondents demanding to know what has become of general Methuen. Well, it is a delicate point. He has not been openly deprived of his command, for reasons that need not be repeated, but Major General Colville has got the division which he had and Lord Methuen is Governor of Kimberley district, probably by favor of Cecil Rhodes, who dearly loves a lord and who knows Lord Methuen as one of his chartered soldier shareholders, perhaps a De Beers shareholder also. Lord Roberts has engineered a difficulty nicely without scandal."

VISITING PRESIDENT STEYN.

Kruger Said to Have Gone to the Orange Free State.

LONDON, March 3.—There is an unconfirmed report from Lourenco Marques that President Kruger has gone to the Orange Free State to consult with President Steyn.

RECRUITS FOR THE BOERS.

Three Thousand Nebraskans Volunteer for South Africa.

CHADRON, Neb., March 3.—Col. John C. Maher is in receipt of a letter from Dr. Leyds, of Brussels, concerning recruits for the Boer Army from Nebraska. Colonel Maher says in his letter that from an advertisement placed in the daily papers calling for volunteers he received about 6,000 replies and 2,000 volunteers among Nebraskans.

He says: "The men who signified their willingness to go are among the best citizens of the State. Many of them are men who volunteered in the Spanish war and are sons of veterans who offered their services in defence of the Union and descendants of those who fought the same for the Afrikanders are now fighting for the same principle, the right to self-government. A thousand volunteers were asked for and 2,000 responded and are only hindered because of the large sum required to transport them."

PRAISE FOR THE BOERS.

The Irish Societies of Philadelphia Adopt Resolutions.

PHILADELPHIA, March 3.—At a meeting last night under the auspices of the Irish societies of this city in memory of the birth of Robert Emmet resolutions were adopted commending the courage of the Boers, expressing the belief that three-fourths of the people of the United States sympathized with them in their battle against English aggression, and saying that the spectacle of Cronje and his 2,000 men holding at bay 80,000 of Britain's best soldiers challenges the admiration of the world and demands that the civilized nations shall join together in a protest against the further slaughter of a people who have given such convincing proofs of their right to freedom.

They urge upon the Congress and the President to extend the good offices of the United States in accordance with the spirit of The Hague Conference in order that peace may be restored. Senator William E. Mason of Illinois made a speech in which he condemned the policy of the Government and denounced the war against the Filipinos.

Three British Officers Escape.

LOURENCO MARQUES, March 3.—The "Standard and Diggers News" of Johannesburg states that three British officers, Haldane, Mesurier, and Brockie, escaped from Pretoria last Monday during the confusion which followed the cutting off of the electric lights.

Parliament to Dissolve.

MONTREAL, March 3.—Senator Forget this morning received a cablegram from London stating that the Government has decided to dissolve Parliament and go to the country.

Burns Prove Fatal.

CUMBERLAND, Md., March 3.—Pearl Spriggs, the nine-year-old daughter of James Spriggs, was burned to death at her home near Plum Run, nine miles northeast of Hancock. Her parents were absent and the children were seated about the fire trying to keep warm, when a blast of wind drove flames from the front of the stove over to the child, igniting her clothes. In trying to put out the fire one of the other children was badly burned. The father, who was hastily summoned, extinguished the flames.

Caught From a Fireplace.

PETERSBURG, Va., March 3.—Mary Lucy, daughter of J. S. Lucy, of Spot Cash, Brunswick county, met with a fatal accident Thursday. She was standing in front of an open fireplace when her clothing became ignited from the flames, and before assistance could be rendered her she was burned to death.

La Normandie Aground.

NEW YORK, March 3.—The French line steamship La Normandie, which sailed this morning for Havre, is aground in Gedneys Channel. The steam pilot boat New York is trying to get her off.

Postal Privileges in Guatemala.

Parcels post privileges were formally established yesterday between this country and Guatemala by the issue of an order from the Postoffice Department enumerating the offices to which parcels may be sent. The regulations attending this service are the same as those of the German service.

THE NEW TARIFF ISSUE

Protectionists Determined to Close the Colonial Open Door.

The President Expected to Speak on the Question in New York Tonight. Representative Cochran's Views. Republicans Evidently Preparing for an Early Congressional Coup.

Representative Cochran of Missouri this morning called attention to the fact as revealed by Senator Foraker's outline yesterday of the Administration's matured policy of imperialism that President McKinley a year or less ago was quite as much at variance with the present attitude of his party toward the Philippines as he was until recently on the Porto Rican question.

"I see," said Mr. Cochran, "that according to Senator Foraker the Republican party is committed against the open door in the Philippines because such a policy would endanger, if it did not destroy, the protective tariff system. In his speeches at banquets and from the rear platform of his special cars on his various trips through the country since our flag has been floating over Manila the President has pledged the Administration to the open door in the Philippines as a very proper justification of his demand for the open door in China. But Senator Foraker's announcement of a different policy shows that the protected interests and the trusts have served notice on his party that Dingleyism, or something worse—if there be anything worse—must be maintained over the Philippines. I presume, of course, that the President will now eat his words on this subject as he did on the subject of free trade for Porto Rico."

Mr. McKinley is not known to have given expression for some time to his intentions regarding the open door in the Philippines. It is generally believed, however, that he has changed his views, and will so announce in the speech he is to make tonight at the annual dinner of the Ohio Society in New York.

Senator Platt of Connecticut is being quoted as having testily declared some time ago, when it seemed possible that the President would not recede from the position he had taken of absolute free trade for Porto Rico and for the open door in the Philippines, that Mr. McKinley appeared to be drifting, either consciously or unconsciously into the camp of the free traders. This remark, it is said, was carried to the President, and it stung him so that he decided to take advantage of the first opportunity publicly to pledge himself to the rigid maintenance, unimpaired, of the protective system against all possible dangers to it from expansion.

The turn which will thus be given to the issues will, it is pointed out, dwarf all of the differences between the two great parties into insignificance compared with the tariff question, and the campaign this year will at last resolve itself into a struggle between protection and tariff for revenue only, with, of course, the tremendous constitutional issue precipitated by the Porto Rican Tariff bill occupying a prominent position in the foreground.

House Democrats this morning learned that yesterday the Sergeant-at-Arms was instructed to see that no Republican member leaves Washington for seven days. What the meaning of this unusual precaution is the Democrats are unable to judge, and the Republicans are as mum as clams on the subject. It is presumed, of course, that some sensational coup is on the tapis, and that it will be sprung as suddenly and dramatically as was the Cannon bill turning over to the President, to be used by him as he sees fit, all of the customs dues collected from Porto Rico under the Dingley bill. It is also thought that the Republicans have their plans for an early adjournment well matured, and that the order to the Sergeant-at-Arms is for the purpose of keeping a safe majority here for the rapid development of the party's purposes and the forcing of an early adjournment of the House to the end of cutting short the debate in the Senate on the Republican policy of imperialism as outlined by the Foraker bill.

THE LOUBET PRESENTATION.

French President to Receive the First Lafayette Dollar Today.

NEW YORK, March 3.—Capt. A. H. Mattox, press representative of the United States Commission, says that cables received yesterday at the office of the United States Commission, in New York city, state that Robert J. Thompson, Secretary of the Lafayette Monument Commission, will present the first Lafayette dollar coined at the Philadelphia Mint, to President Loubet of France, today. Secretary Thompson will present this memento as the special commissioner of President McKinley and in the name of the President of the United States. The dollar is enclosed in a magnificent casket which cost about $1,000. After the presentation President and Mme. Loubet will give a private luncheon to Secretary Thompson as the representative of President McKinley. Only a few people will be invited to the lunch, among them Commissioner General Ferdinand W. Peck, Ambassador Porter, and Assistant Commissioner General B. D. Woodward. The presentation remarks of Secretary Thompson to President Loubet will be as follows:

"Mr. President: In the name and on behalf of his Excellency, the President of the United States, I have the distinguished honor of extending to you, the high representative of the people of France, salutations and greetings of friendship.

"On the nineteenth of October, 1898, the anniversary of the victory at Yorktown of the French and American arms in the cause of liberty, the American school youth were invited by the President and the Governors of the several states of the United States to contribute their pennies toward the erection of a monument in Paris to a son of France, our great and venerated ally, General Lafayette. The response of the children was universal; the movement, a splendid success. In further aid and in honor of the work, an issue of fifty thousand souvenir silver dollars was appropriated and ordered struck by Congress.

"Of these fifty thousand Lafayette dollars, the first to issue from the mint was especially preserved for your Excellency by the President of the United States, and I have now the distinguished honor, Mr. President, of presenting to you this coin—a simple and sympathetic token—in his name and for the people of the United States.

"I voice the sentiments of my countrymen when I express the hope that this Memorial Dollar, stamped with the likeness of Washington and Lafayette, may remain always, as it is today, an emblem of the amity and the unity of purpose of the two great republics of the world."

Norfolk & Washington Steamboat Co.

Delightful trips daily at 6:30 p. m. to Old Point Comfort, Newport News, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach. For schedule see page 7.

Flynn's Business College, 8th and K.

Business, Shorthand, Typewriting—$25 a year.

READY TO RETALIATE.

The Administration Preparing to Resent German Trade Restrictions.

There appears to be no doubt that the United States Government will adopt retaliatory measures against Germany if the bills now before the Reichstag, imposing severer restrictions on the importation of American meat products into that country and excluding some of them altogether, are enacted into laws.

The Department of Agriculture has issued an official statement in which it says:

"A portion of the German press has taken much pleasure in repeating and exaggerating the reports of frauds in the meat trade of the United States, but fortunately there has never been any proof of such frauds in this country as are now reported from Germany, and the German officials might obtain some valuable hints as to the best methods of handling condemned meats by examining the plan adopted in our meat inspection service.

"It would be a great blessing to the workingmen of Germany if they could obtain the cheap and excellent American meats. It is said that owing to the difficulty of obtaining meat in Saxony, dogs are frequently slaughtered for food, and this is particularly true of Chemnitz, which is practically supported by its trade with the United States, and yet the local regulations of Chemnitz are such that it is impracticable to ship American meats to that city."

FUNERAL OF MR. EPES.

A House Delegation to Accompany the Remains to Virginia.

After the reading of the journal and the transaction of some routine business in the House today, Mr. Hay of Virginia announced the sudden death at 12:10 o'clock this morning at Garfield Hospital of his colleague, Sydney P. Epes, and offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That the House has heard with deep regret and profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. Sydney P. Epes, late a Representative of the State of Virginia.

"Resolved, That a committee of eighteen members of the House, with such members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral at Blackstone, Va., and that the necessary expenses attending the execution of this order be paid out of the Contingent Fund of the House.

"Resolved, That the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for properly carrying out the provisions of this resolution.

"Resolved, That the clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate, and transmit a copy of them to the family of the deceased."

The remains of Representative Epes were this afternoon conveyed from the hospital and at 5 o'clock placed aboard the train leaving the Pennsylvania Station for the South. There were no services of any character in this city, and none will be held until Monday, the day of the funeral, at Blackstone, Va.

An escort of eight Capitol police was sent as a guard of honor to attend the casket from the undertaker's to the station. At the latter place was awaiting the committee from the House of Representatives that accompanied the body to Blackstone.

The committee was composed of the following members of the House: Wilbur A. Jones, Claude A. Swanson, Peter J. Otey, John Lamb, John F. Rixey, William A. Young, William F. Rhea, J. M. Quarles, John S. Rhea, S. W. McCall, J. W. Bailey, D. A. DeArmond, John W. Jenkins, John S. Williams, Charles F. Joy, H. D. Clayton, R. L. Henry and John J. Jenkins.

Mr. Epes died from the effects of a surgical operation for appendicitis, which had been performed thirty-eight hours before. After the shock of the knife had worn away, he seemed to recover for a time, but during last evening began to sink rapidly until the end came as stated. He had not been well since last Wednesday, when he was forced to leave his seat in the House and take to his bed.

From Williards' Hotel, where he lived, he was taken to Garfield Hospital on Thursday, but the case had so far developed that his life was despaired of from the first, and the operation was performed with little hope by the physicians. It is said that there were complications from which it would have been impossible for him to recover. Mrs. Epes is completely prostrated, and has seen only her most intimate friends since the event of her husband's death. She accompanies the remains to the place of interment at Blackstone, Va.

Sydney P. Epes, Representative from the Fourth Virginia district, was born in Nottoway county, Va., August 20, 1865. He received an academic education in Kentucky, where his parents moved when he was fourteen years old. In 1884 he returned to Virginia and engaged in journalism and later edited and published a Democratic newspaper. He was successively Chairman of the Democratic County Committee of Nottoway county, member of the Democratic State Central Committee, and Chairman of the Fourth Congressional District Committee.

In 1891 he was elected a member of the General Assembly to represent the counties of Nottoway and Amelia. In 1895 he was appointed by Governor O'Ferrall Register of the Land Office to fill an unexpired term, and at the following session of the General Assembly was elected by acclamation for the full term.

Before the expiration of his term as register exvired he was elected to the Fifty-fifth Congress as a Democrat, in opposition to R. T. Thorp, Republican. He was re-elected to the Fifty-sixth Congress.

A DEGREE FOR MR. CHOATE.

American Ambassador to Be Honored by Edinburgh University.

LONDON, March 3.—The Faculty of Edinburgh University has decided to confer the degree of LL. D. on Joseph Choate, Eleanor A. Ormerod, the noted etymologist.

FRANK FUNK SENTENCED.

To Be Hanged at the District Jail on May 11 Next.

Frank W. Funk was sentenced today by Justice Cole to be hanged in the District jail on May 11 next, between the hours of 12 noon and 2 p. m., for the murder of William H. Brooks.

This is the date upon which Justice Clabaugh some days ago decided Benjamin H. Snell shall die for the murder of Lizzie Weisenberger on August 6, 1899.

Governor Tanner Has a Relapse.

SPRINGFIELD, Ills., March 3.—Governor Tanner suffered a relapse yesterday, but his physicians say there is nothing alarming in his condition, despite sensational rumors that have been circulated. Dr. J. N. Dixon, his attending physician, said today the relapse was caused by an attempt of the Governor to eat solid food after doing well on a diet of liquid foods.

A Jail Breaker Recaptured.

BERKELEY SPRINGS, W. Va., March 3.—Frank Sirbaugh, the one-legged man who broke jail here, was captured Thursday at a farmhouse near Hancock by William Dill and Charles Coughlan, of Berkeley Springs. He is charged with complicity in the Kesler double murder at Magnolia. Lewis Flack, charged with theft, who also escaped, is still at large.

Pension vouchers executed Sunday. S. J. Block, 600 F Street.

CLARK TESTIMONY ENDED

Montana Senatorial Case to Be Argued on March 20.

Six Hours to Be Allowed the Attorneys on Each Side—Printed Briefs Also to Be Submitted by Counsel. Principal Figures in the Enquiry Absent From the Hearing Today.

Argument by counsel in the Montana Senatorial case will be begun on Tuesday, March 20, at 10:30 a. m.

The memorialists against Senator W. A. Clark will open and close, the counsel to address the Committee on Privileges and Elections being A. A. Birney, former United States District Attorney for the District of Columbia, and former Senator Edmunds.

The argument for the defence of Senator Clark will be made by former Senator Faulkner and Roger Foster. Six hours will be allowed to each side for the presentation of oral argument. The order in which the several counsel will address the committee will be determined later, though it is the understanding that Mr. Birney will open for the memorialists and that Mr. Edmunds will close.

On the side of Senator Clark it is understood that the opening argument will be made by Mr. Foster and the concluding argument by Mr. Faulkner. In addition to oral argument, briefs will be submitted on each side.

When the Committee on Privileges and Elections met this morning, Senator Hoar, who has been acting chairman during the sickness of Senator Chandler, announced that the preference of the committee was that printed briefs should be presented by each side, and that oral arguments should also be made. Mr. Edmunds said that the proper preparation of the testimony for presentation would take some little time. "It would," he said, "take some time to go through the mass of testimony."

Mr. Faulkner announced that he was having made a condensation of the testimony of the case, placing in apposition conflicting evidence on points at issue. "We have almost finished that part of the printed testimony numbered part 7. Part 8 will probably not be delivered to me before Wednesday and for this reason I think it will take us about two weeks to get ready."

Mr. Edmunds said that if the committee demanded the memorialists could be ready to proceed to argument in one week.

Mr. Birney and Mr. Edmunds said their side would be satisfied with four hours for oral argument.

Mr. Faulkner was of the opinion that this might not be time enough for his side to present its case, as he should like to, but he was ready to accommodate himself to the wishes of the committee.

Mr. Hoar said that on the whole, the committee was opposed to long speeches, but because of the character of the counsel engaged, he thought the committee would be inclined to extend the time of counsel rather than to limit it, and he would therefore allow six hours to each side, associated counsel to divide the time between themselves as they should see fit.

The members of the committee present, Messrs. Hoar, Pettus, Turley, Pritchard, Harris, and McComas retired to the room of the Committee on Commerce for consultation. Upon returning, Mr. Hoar announced that oral argument would be heard on Tuesday March 20, beginning at 10:30 a. m. The committee would make no order for the interchange of briefs, but would request that opposing counsel would furnish each other with a copy of their briefs, and that members of the committee should also be furnished with briefs on the Saturday preceding the Tuesday set aside for argument.

"The case is now closed," said Mr. Hoar, "though, of course, if evidence shall appear which will be deemed of sufficient importance, the committee will have the right to consider it."

The committee then adjourned. There was a small attendance, only one or two of the principal figures in the case being present. Neither Senator Clark, Charles W. Clark, John B. Wellcome, W. M. Bickford, A. J. Steel, Mr. John S. M. Neill was present when the case, so far as the taking of testimony is concerned, was closed.

ROSS SPEAKS AGAINST QUAY.

Argument Against Giving the Pennsylvanian a Senate Seat.

In the Senate today the resolution against the seating of Matthew S. Quay, as Senator from Pennsylvania, was taken up, and Mr. Ross addressed the Senate in support of the resolution and against Mr. Quay's right to a seat.

He argued that the framers of the Constitution had not intended to provide for the neglect of a State Legislature to discharge its duty and fill a vacancy in the Senate. If that vacancy were not filled it was the fault of the State in having elected a Legislature which refused or neglected to perform its duty.

The Quay matter went over without action, and Mr. Teller of Colorado made some remarks on the subject of the conference report on the Financial bill.

A resolution, offered by Mr. Petigrew, was agreed to, calling on the Secretary of War for the record of the court-martial in the case of Lieut. Col. H. C. Corbin, held at Chattanooga, in 1864-65, together with all evidence submitted, and the report of Col. Thomas J. Morgan in regard to the connection of Lieut. Col. Corbin with the operations of the First Colored Brigade.

DISTRICT TELEPHONE RATES.

The House Committee Postpones Action Until Next Week.

The House District Committee today gave a hearing to delegations of Washington business men who are interested in bills for cheaper telephone rates. A large delegation from the Citizens' Committee, re-enforced by Baltimore business men who are interested in the Washington Telephone Company, appeared. It included Samuel Ross of Washington, George W. Webb of Baltimore, and other incorporators and stockholders.

T. C. Daniel, of Washington, appeared in favor of the Columbia Company. The District Committee decided after hearing the arguments of all present to postpone action until next Wednesday. This decision is significant in view of the statement of one of the members of the committee to the effect that the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company will also submit a proposition to reduce the present rates of that company to meet the popular demand for cheaper service.

Receipts From the Philippines.

The War Department received a cabled statement today showing that the total receipts from the Philippine Islands for the month of February, 1900, was $426,423, of which amount $357,000 was derived from the customs sources.

$1.25 to Baltimore and Return via B. & O. Saturday and Sunday.

March 3 and 4, good for return until following Monday. Tickets good on all trains except Royal Limited.

MAYAS INDIANS KILLED.

Mexican Troops Rout the Insurgent Redskins at Aguada.

OAKAKA, Mexico, March 3.—General Bravos' Government troops have made an aggressive advance against the Mayas Indians in the state of Yucatan during the last few days. His army is now within a few miles of Santa Cruz, the main stronghold of the rebels. An attack on their stronghold will be made early next week.

The Mayas were strongly entrenched at Aguada, their force numbering 3,000 well-armed men. Six hudred Mexican troops, commanded by General Bravos in person, attacked them and drove them from the trenches. Thirty-two Indians were killed.

KENTUCKY CASE CLOSED.

Judge Field Takes the Gubernatorial Contest Under Consideration.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., March 3.—Former Governor Bradley closed his argument in the gubernatorial agreed case at noon, and Judge Field took the case under consideration. He will render a decision next week.

Should Field decide that Beckham is the legal Governor, then the Republicans will appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States on a writ of error.

DAMAGES IN CLEVELAND.

A Storm Injures a Telephone Plant to the Extent of $100,000.

CLEVELAND, March 3.—All street railway traffic in the city is again open and cars were running on nearly schedule time last night. With the exception of Berea Line, of the Cleveland, Berea, and Elyria Road, all of the suburban lines were also open. Ever since the great storm was at its height on Wednesday night all street car traffic has been tied up.

About 8,000 telephones are out of service and 4,000 miles of wires down. Six hundred men are at work repairing damage to telephones. There was a slight thaw yesterday and it loosened up things somewhat, but it froze solid again at night. Assistant Manager Benaple, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, placed the company's loss here at $160,000.

CENSURED THE PRESIDENT.

Milwaukee Methodist Ministers Criticise Him for Drinking Wine.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., March 3.—President McKinley has been severely censured by the Milwaukee Methodist Ministers' Association, of this city, for drinking wine at the banquet given in his honor at the Hotel Pfister, October 15. A letter of protest in the form of a round robin was sent to Mr. McKinley informing him that a good member of the Methodist Church does not drink wine and scoring him in severe terms.

The ministers refuse to give out a copy of the letter, but one sentence of the robin contains these words: "We have a hard enough fight against the liquor traffic all the time without having to face the additional influence of a Methodist President who comes to our city and at a public banquet drinks every kind of wine on the menu."

The action of the ministers has been kept quiet for some time. A committee was appointed to investigate the charges against the President, and it is claimed that undisputable evidence was secured that the President sampled all the wines on the Milwaukee menu.

THE TRUST REPORT.

Resolution Providing for the Printing of 100,000 Copies.

Senator Kyle has introduced a resolution providing for the printing of 100,000 copies of the report of the Industrial Commission—70,000 for the use of the House, 25,000 for the use of the Senate, and 5,000 for the use of the Industrial Commission. The report and Senator Kyle's resolution were referred to the Senate Committee on Printing. The committee has asked the Government Printing Office for an estimate of the cost of printing 100,000 copies.

The Commission departed from the usual custom in sending its report to Congress. The report was printed, indexed, digested, and cross-referenced. The more than 1,800 pages have been stereotyped, and the only cost in printing the large editions will be that of the presswork, paper, gathering, and stitching.

Senators and Representatives, as well as the members of the Commission, are already receiving many requests from all parts of the country for copies of the testimony and report.

FOR THE NAVAL RESERVES.

The Converted Yacht Oneida to Be Loaned to Them.

Assistant Secretary Charles H. Allen of the Navy, has notified Commander Robert P. Hains, of the District Naval Reserves, that the converted yacht Oneida will be loaned to them for a practice vessel. The Oneida was built for Eugene Tompkins of Boston, and is a staunch little vessel. She now lies at the Norfolk Navy Yard, but will be brought up the river in about two weeks, and taken in charge by the District Naval Reserve.

The Oneida is a steel schooner, and was built at Bath, Me., in 1896. She has a displacement of 150 tons, and her type of engine is the single screw verticle inverted triple expansor. Her indicated horse power is 350 and her complement 2 officers and 22 men.

MRS. PLATT'S CONDITION.

The Senator's Wife Considerably Improved Today.

Mrs. Thomas C. Platt, wife of the New York Senator, who has been ill at the Arlington Hotel for the past month, has experienced a change for the better and her condition this morning was considerably improved. There is no immediate concern for apprehension.

Frank H. Platt, the son of Senator Platt, arrived last night from New York and is with his mother. Senator Platt is detained at New York city and Albany by very important business.

A Veteran Frozen to Death.

CUMBERLAND, Md., March 3.—John D. More, a Union veteran, was found frozen stiff within 100 yards of his home, near Hyndman, fourteen miles north of Cumberland Thursday. His face was frozen in the ice, and it was necessary to use a chisel to get his body loose. He enlisted at the outbreak of the civil war, serving in both the Thirteenth and One Hundred and Tenth Pennsylvania Regiments.

Sighted the Derelict Sarah E. Ward.

NORFOLK, Va., March 3.—Capt. J. E. Galt, of the British steamship Montpelier from New Orleans to Havre and London, which was at Lambert's Point yesterday for bunker coal, reported having sighted the derelict lumber-laden schooner Sarah E. Ward thirteen miles off Cape Hatteras. The Ward's crew has been landed in New York. The derelict is a menace to navigation.

A JUNKET TO PORTO RICO

Report That a Congressional Joint Committee Will Be Appointed.

The Despatch Boat Dolphin Being Overhauled in Preparation for the Voyage—Needs of the Island to Be Investigated by the Senators and Representatives Who Are Named.

The overhauling of the despatch boat Dolphin has resulted in several interesting reports concerning the vessel's mission in the very near future. The Dolphin is to be put into the best possible shape and it will be first used, after the repairs have been completed, to convey the House Committee on Naval Affairs to Newport News, Va., where the shipbuilding works will be thoroughly inspected.

This trip will be made at the invitation of the Secretary of the Navy, and the members of the House Committee on Naval Affairs will leave here Friday. While at Newport News they will inspect the new battleship Kearsarge, which was placed in commission ten days ago.

The decision to take the trip grew out of Secretary Long's appearance before the Naval Committee this week in connection with the increase of the Navy. In the course of a discussion of the merits of large battleships Secretary Long said that he wished the members of the committee could see the Kearsarge, which he described as the largest and best battleship in the Navy. The Secretary told the committeemen that they would learn much from a visit to and inspection of the vessel, and said he would place the Dolphin at the disposal of the committee if it wanted to go.

The committee subsequently accepted the invitation and orders have been issued to Lieut. Commander W. H. H. Southerland, the Dolphin's commander, to have his ship ready for the trip by Friday next. The committee is particularly anxious to see the workings of the double-deck turrets on the Kearsarge, the first vessel of the Navy on which they have been installed.

The trip, it is said, will extend over several days and Secretary Long may accompany the committee.

It is also stated that the Dolphin, after its return from the Norfolk trip, will be turned over to a joint committee from the Senate and House for a voyage to Porto Rico. There was a rumor today at the Navy Department to the effect that a Congressional committee will be appointed very soon for the purpose of conducting an investigation of affairs in the island of Porto Rico. This committee, it is said, will be empowered to enquire into the actual condition of the islanders and study the commercial relations of the United States and Porto Rico. It will also investigate the capacity of the natives for self-government and report on the improvements needed in the island. It was stated today that the resolution calling for the appointment of the joint committee referred to will be introduced in Congress immediately following the action of the Senate on the Porto Rican Tariff bill.

SUSPICIOUS OF GERMANY.

An Alleged Effort to Gain Possession of the Sulu Islands.

Private information has been received in Washington by mail from Manila that about six months ago a German warship visited the Sulu Islands and an officer of the vessel endeavored to persuade the Sultan to declare himself and his possessions under the protection of the German crown. The sender of this information says that the Sultan rejected the attempt to get him to repudiate his acknowledgement of American authority.

While this report would hardly have received credence here a few weeks ago, the suspicion that Germany is behind Spain's attempt to regain the Islands of Sibutu and Cayagan Sulu on the claim that they were not transferred to the United States by the Paris Treaty, falls in closely with the new information. The man responsible for the statements concerning the visit of the German warship to the Sulu group, is described as thoroughly reliable.

No answer has been returned by the Government to the representations of Spain about Sibutu and Cayagan Sulu. An examination of international law and geographical and historical authorities is being made by direction of the Secretary of State to ascertain if there is any warrant for Spain's claim. The statement was made today by an official concerned in the matter that nothing had been discovered yet to change the opinion of the Department that the entire possessions of Spain in the Philippine archipelago, whether included within the boundaries set forth in the Peace Treaty or not, were transferred to the United States.

THE LITIGATION ENDED.

Cleland Lindsley to Receive One-Half of an Estate.

The litigation over the estate of the late Cleland Lindsley has been ended by a settlement out of court. Mr. Lindsley, who had been a resident of Washington all his life, died in March last, leaving a will wherein he bequeathed $1 to his son, Cleland Lindsley, jr., and the bulk of his estate, after the payment of certain legacies to charitable institutions, to his sister, Mrs. Ada Dorsey, of this city.

The will was contested by Cleland Lindsley, jr., and after negotiations lasting several months, a compromise has just been effected whereby Mr. Lindsley, jr., receives one-half of the estate, which is appraised at about $40,000.

Messrs. Berry & Minor appeared for Mr. Lindsley, jr., while Mrs. Dorsey was represented by Messrs. Hamilton & Colbert.

THE NAVAL WAR COLLEGE.

Officers of the Revenue Cutter Service to Attend.

At the invitation of the Secretary of the Navy, officers of the Revenue Cutter Service, a branch of the Treasury Department, will attend the summer course of the Naval War College at Newport and participate in the discussions of strategical questions. Army officers will attend the course also.

At least two and perhaps four Revenue Cutter officers will be sent to Newport, and one of them will read a paper pertaining to his service.

Miners Use Dynamite.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., March 3.—Yesterday at the mines of the Aetna Coal Company, near Whiteside, Tenn., a locomotive was blown up with dynamite. The miners at this place have been on a strike for about three months and it is believed they destroyed the engine. The miners are out of money and supplies and are getting desperate.

David B. Hill Non-Committal.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 3.—Former Governor David B. Hill was asked today if he expected to be one of the big four from this State at Kansas City. His reply was: "I am practising law now."

$1.25 To Baltimore and Return via Pennsylvania Railroad. $1.25

Tickets on sale Saturday and Sunday, March 3 and 4, good to return until Monday, March 5. All trains except Congressional Limited.