

RANGE OF THERMOMETER.

The thermometer at the Times office...

VOL. 14. NO. 245.

GENERAL ADVANCE UPON COLENSO

Has Been Ordered and a Flying Column Has Left

GENERAL JOUBERT Is Expected to Stoutly Resist Passage of Tugela River.

THE BOER LOSSES AT BELMONT Were Ten Killed and Forty Wounded.

A Pigeon Message From Lady Smith Reports All Well There.

ESTCOURT, Nov. 26.—The railroad bridge at Frere, spanning a wide stream, has been destroyed by the Boers...

A general advance upon Colenso has been ordered and a flying column has left here to intercept the Boer raiding parties.

General Joubert is expected to stoutly dispute the passage of the Tugela river.

DEURBAN, NATAL, November 26.—The latest reports of General Hilyard's losses at the Belmont Hill engagement show that fifteen men were killed and twenty-two wounded.

Despatches from President Kruger and General Joubert found on a Boer prisoner said the Boer losses at Belmont were ten killed and forty wounded.

BOERS RETIRING.

LONDON, Nov. 27.—The Colonial Office has received the following despatch from the governor of Natal, dated Pietermaritzburg, Sunday, November 25:

"The Boers are retiring on Weenen. Our troops are occupying a ridge three miles northward of the Mool river. It appears that the Boers have found our position too strong and are retiring towards Ladysmith with the loot they have collected."

"The river is in a flood. Buller has arrived."

LONDON, Nov. 27.—The War Office has received the following despatch from General Buller, dated Pietermaritzburg, Sunday, November 26th:

"Hilyard, from Estcourt, with three battalions, one field battery, a naval gun and 70 mounted troops, on the enemy occupying Belmont Hill, which dominates the communication. As a result of the operations, the Boers are retiring and telegraph lines have been restored between Estcourt and Weenen."

"Our loss was about 14 killed and 20 wounded."

"As soon as communication is restored I will telegraph particulars. So far as I can make out the operation is one which Hilyard and the troops deserve much credit. The railway is now open to Frere."

CAPE TOWN, Nov. 27.—Afternoon.—It is reported that General Methuen has captured Honey Nest Kloof, ten miles north of Gras Pan and two million pounds of ammunition.

LIST OF CASUALTIES.

LONDON, Nov. 27.—The commander-in-chief at the Cape has sent the Admiralty the additional list of casualties among the British Naval Brigade engaged at the battle of Gras Pan, as follows:

Midshipman Hubbard, of the cruiser Isis, and ten sailors and marines killed, and thirteen petty officers and seamen and seventy-six non-commissioned officers and men of the marines wounded.

Total casualties 96.

The following message has been telegraphed to the commander-in-chief at the Cape:

"The Queen desires you to convey to the Naval Brigade who were present at the action at Gras Pan Her Majesty's congratulations on their gallant conduct, and at the same time express the Queen's regret at the losses sustained by the brigade."

Dr. Jameson, the leader of the famous raid, has arrived in London from South Africa.

CABLE SERVICE INTERRUPTED.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—A. M.—A fresh interruption in the East African cable service at this interesting moment has brought a cessation of war news. As yet the War Office has not received Lord Methuen's detailed list of casualties, nor is any information at hand regarding the whereabouts of the Ninth Lancers, who were sent in pursuit of the Boers from Gras Pan.

General Buller's achievements at Belmont Hill is beginning to be recognized as one of the best things that campaign has yet shown, as it has relieved the tension of the situation in Natal and has brought the relief of Ladysmith within measurable distance.

A Stormy Passage.

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 27.—The British steamer Acme, from Ponsacola, October

THE MAZET COMMITTEE.

District Attorney Gardner Did Not Go on the Stand.

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—District Attorney Asa Bird Gardner did not avail himself of the opportunity of going on the witness stand afforded this afternoon by the Mazet Committee.

Instead he confided to the opinion of Mr. Mazet and his colleagues an open letter, and let that go as a substitute for his personal testimony.

The letter was an attack on Mazet, and claimed that the committee had no power to compel witnesses to attend.

After Gardner's failure to appear before the committee had been noted, Attorney Moss read the affidavit of Edward Reardon, who swore he served a subpoena on the district attorney, and that latter said: "I have a good mind to arrest you."

Mr. Reardon also testified that when the subpoena had been served the District Attorney called him a liar.

By far the greater portion of the day was consumed in an investigation of the methods of the health department. In the afternoon, however, Counsel Moss got after the District Attorney's office. He announced that he would give much time to the investigation of District Attorney Gardner's administration.

A SUCCESSFUL TEST.

Messages Were Sent Without Wires Through a Suite of Seven Rooms.

CHICAGO, Nov. 27.—Prof. W. S. Johnston and S. L. Fortier, of Milwaukee, tonight made a successful test in this city of the wireless telegraph. They succeeded in telegraphing without wires through a suite of seven rooms with all doors closed and through seven walls.

Another test was made when the signals were conveyed through three fire-proof safes, an ordinary telegraph switch-board in which thirty wires were connected up and about forty dead wires were located. Notwithstanding the fact that this switchboard contained five wires, the current passed through all of the safes and through this board. This is one of the most severe tests that has ever been given wireless telegraph.

A third test was made in which the sending instrument was placed inside of one of the steel vaults and the receiving instrument was placed in the vault of the most severe tests that has ever been given wireless telegraph.

PRODUCTION OF TOBACCO.

Comparative Figures, Showing an Immense Increase.

CINCINNATI, O., Nov. 27.—The Western Tobacco Journal, of this city, in its monthly report of the tobacco production of the United States, says the tobacco manufactured in October 1899, was 1,513,944 pounds, an increase of 6,212,089 pounds over that of October 1898.

The greatest increase in pounds is in the First Missouri district, at St. Louis, 1,152,335 pounds.

In percentage of increase the Second Kentucky district, at Owensboro, heads the list with 319 per cent.

The cigar production for October was 61,806,935, an increase of 7,717,112 over the production of the corresponding month in 1898.

Charred Body of an Unknown Negro.

MACON, GA., Nov. 27.—The charred body of an unknown negro, supposed to be a tramp, was found in the ash bin of the Macon Manufacturing Company here this morning.

He was horribly burned, and there were no distinguishing marks about the clothes or body. How he came to his death and how his body came to be in the ash pile is a mystery which the coroner has been unable as yet to unravel.

THE SINGLE GOLD STANDARD.

The General Currency Bill Will be Given to the Press for Publication To-morrow.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—The General Currency Bill prepared by the Republican Caucus Committee appointed by the last Congress has received its final revision at the hands of the members and will be given to the press to-morrow afternoon for publication Wednesday after a copy has been mailed to each Republican representative in Congress.

Chief Features.

The Evening Star to-day prints the following as some of the chief features of the bill, and which in the main are probably fairly accurate:

An amendment to the Coinage Laws, authorizing the issue of a gold coin of the value of \$3.43 grains of gold, 80 parts fine, the standard coin measure.

An amendment to the greenback issue act of 1875 providing that those Treasury notes shall be redeemed with gold and when so redeemed shall not be re-issued.

This provision will prevent the operation of the endless chain which hitherto has been the means to raid the gold reserve.

YOUNG PURSUES AGUINALDO

With Cavalry and Scouts He Sticks to the Trail.

THE OREGON MARINES Landed at Vigan But Will be Relieved by Troops on 29th.

SPANISH PRISONERS ESCAPE. Three Hundred, Including Civil Officials and Many Officers, Have Arrived in Manila During Past Week—Buencamino Lodged in Comfortable Quarters.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—General Otis to-day reports the situation in the Philippines in the following despatch to the War Department:

MANILA, Nov. 27.—Steamer from San Fabian yesterday brought 115 Spanish prisoners, 55,000 insurgent government money and other property captured by American troops near Laguna on 24th.

Wheaton's troops, Fowler's company, 234, drove enemy westward from Dagupan, seven miles southwest of Dagupan, captured five 3-inch muzzle-loading guns, 12 rifles, 12,000 rounds Minnie cartridges, 1,500 shotguns, 800 pounds powder and other property; also 94 Spanish and seven American prisoners. Detail with thirty-sixth infantry, in pursuit, and will march down western Luzon coast. Indications are two or three bodies insurgent troops, numbered probably 600 or more men, each, in mountainous and difficult country, can be readily located. If not a precise date, regarding the independence of the island, there will be a rising of some sort, although opinions differ widely with regard to what it will amount to.

YOUNG IN PURSUIT.

Young still in pursuit of Aguinaldo, who is heading for Bangued, five miles east of Vigan. Young, with cavalry and scouts is followed by battalion 233 and by balance battalion 234, two battalions 235, on route for Vigan by military post road. Young's reputation by inhabitants most enthusiastic; they give all assistance. Aguinaldo has collected more than 1,500 of his troops at the north, probably many will desert him. Number of small detachments insurgent troops throughout country north of Manila, and in the vicinity of Zamboanga, Luzon, and in the Philippines, are numerous. Reports from Manila disintegrating, and troops going to their homes.

MR. MASON RESIGNS.

Mr. Root's Private Secretary to Go in Business With Alger.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—Mr. Victor L. Mason, private secretary to Secretary Root, has resigned that position to engage in business with General Russell A. Alger.

MR. MASON RESIGNS.

CHARLES COGHLAN DEAD.

The Eminent Actor and Author Died Yesterday Morning.

GALVESTON, TEX., Nov. 27.—Charles Coghlan, the actor, who has been ill here since October 20th with acute gastritis, died this morning.

MEMPHIS, TENN., Nov. 27.—A dispatch received from the Tribune at Galveston, Texas, confirms the death of Charles Coghlan, the eminent actor and author. The dispatch adds:

"The Royal Box Company played all through Texas with the understanding, as star, who impersonated the famous actor apparently to the satisfaction of the public."

MILLER GONE TO MEXICO.

Promoter of Franklin Syndicate Seen en Route to Vera Cruz.

KANSAS CITY, MO., Nov. 27.—William F. Miller, the New York promoter of the Franklin Syndicate, for whom hundreds of detectives all over the country are in the lookout, is reported to have passed through Kansas City, Saturday en route to Vera Cruz, Mexico.

A Chicago newspaper man, who is visiting friends in this city, is quoted as having seen and talked to Miller on an incoming Maple Leaf train. Miller apparently took the first train southwest. No further trace of him has been secured.

BRYAN TO LEAD THE COHORTS

Croker Says the Fight Will be Against Trusts and Imperialism With the Nebraskan as Leader.

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—Richard Croker, who is to sail for Europe to-morrow, was interviewed to-day at the Democratic Club.

He said: "I want to say before my departure for Europe that William J. Bryan will be the standard-bearer of the Democratic party in the next national campaign. The fight will be made against trusts and imperialism, and Mr. Bryan is the only man who will give us such a fight. I am sure you may rest assured of that. No running mate for Mr. Bryan has been selected as yet. Several names have been under consideration, but no decision has been arrived at."

HAS NEVER FALTERED.

"There is no truth at all," said Mr. Croker, in the statement that Senator Bryan will give up the fight.

"(Continued on Second Page.)"

WOULD REFUSE THE FRANCHISE

The Tax Sought to be Much Too Heavy.

VIEW THAT IS TAKEN. Probable Action of the Boyd-Newton Syndicate.

COULD NOT SELL ANY BONDS. The Element of Uncertainty Would Carry Away Capital—The Finance Committee to Meet To-night—May Reconsider Their Former Action.

It can be stated on what seems to be the most excellent authority, that the Boyd-Newton Syndicate will not accept the franchise as recommended by the Committee on Streets.

That document is perfectly satisfactory to the syndicate, with the exception of the fourth section, which imposes a tax of 4.10 per centum on their realty and 5 per cent on their gross receipts, the latter to be increased every ten years at the option of the Councils then in office.

The Finance Committee, which had the matter under consideration, recommended that the tax be 5 per cent, to begin with, and that it be increased to 7½ per cent in 1905, and to 10 per cent in 1915.

In lieu of this Mr. Ebel moved that the increase be left to the discretion of the future Councils, and his motion was adopted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Committee on Finance will hold another meeting to-night and later in the week the Common Council will assemble. It is thought that the committee will again consider the subject and be prepared to recommend some amendment to the ordinance when it is presented which will not be so burdensome upon those who are seeking to secure control of the lines.

A gentleman who is thoroughly cognizant of the affairs of the Richmond Railway and Electric Company and of the views of those who are applying for a franchise, said yesterday that there was little chance of their securing the franchise as framed by the Committee on Streets.

"No sane business man would," he said, "and I wonder greatly at the stand taken by the committee on the subject of taxation."

The Richmond Railway and Electric Company has been paying a tax of between 2½ and 3 per cent. Their earnings have not been sufficient for them to keep their roads and equipment in good condition, as can be seen at a glance. They have not earned sufficient to pay their bonds. Of this the floating debt of \$500,000 is proof positive. As they have been able to do neither of these things they certainly have been unable to establish a sinking fund for the redemption of the principal of the bondholders.

"If the road has not earned sufficient to do any of these things under a 3 per cent. tax, how can it do so under a 5 per cent. tax and with an additional heavy tax on the capitalists on its realty? The whole thing is a simple business proposition, capable of demonstration so plainly that any one can understand it."

ELEMENT OF UNCERTAINTY.

"Granting, however, that the road could make money under such conditions, there is another trouble to be faced. If the proposed ordinance becomes a law, the greater portion of the money necessary to carry on all large enterprises must come from abroad; there is not sufficient here. Suppose an attempt should be made by the syndicate to sell bonds to the capitalists; they would be laughed at when they said that no one knew what the rate of taxation would be ten years hence; no one would buy the bonds under such conditions."

"I believe the Street Committee and the Council desire to act fairly; but they have been misled. In the Street Committee the other night the statement was made that the street car lines of New Orleans are taxed more than 10 per cent on their gross receipts. Information received to-day from the president of the lines there states that this is incorrect—there they do not exceed 2 per cent—quite a difference, you see."

PUBLIC SENTIMENT.

So far as it can be ascertained, the sentiment of the people of Richmond is in favor of the Passenger and Power Company securing the franchise on such terms as will give the people the best service.

"We had rather have a little more spent on the lines and equipment," said a man who patronizes the cars a great deal, "and less put into the city's treasury. It will do the public far more good to have the street car people at certain to curtail their expenditures."

"Look at the present outfit," he continued. "It is said that \$5,000,000 have been put into it one way and another, but it is sick and sore. The world is done for, being to start a line I would rather have the whole thing swept away and the streets left clear."

A number of members of the Street Committee were seen yesterday, and most of them think that the ordinance will pass as it stands.

Some of the others, however, openly say that the tax is too heavy.

THE RACE TO MANILA.

The Newark, Captain McCalla, Won, Reaching There Saturday.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—The Newark, Captain McCalla, has won the race to Manila, a cablegram received at the Navy Department to-day announcing her arrival there on Saturday.

The Brooklyn "Franklin Syndicate," was probably in Richmond at the Jefferson last Monday week, November 20th, has no foundation in fact.

Miller could not have been here on that date, as he did not depart for the whole of November 20th, if, indeed, he has left that city at all.

General Offices Moved.

The general offices of the Pullman Palace Car Company, which have for many years been located in the Byrd-Street Building, will, on December 1st, be moved over the New York Laundry, No. 12 North Ninth street.

DECLINED TO ACCEPT.

United States Rejected the British-German Samoan Arrangement.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—The United States has declined to accept the agreement as to the disposition of the Samoan Islands reached by Great Britain and Germany.

It was possibly the leaking out of some information to this effect that gave rise to the report in European capitals recently of the development of a serious hitch in the negotiations. As a matter of fact, there is no serious hitch and the reasons which influenced the State Department here in rejecting the British-German arrangement when it was submitted for approval, related entirely to minor matters and touched rather upon the form than the substance of the arrangement.

Having rejected the tentative treaty submitted by the other two powers, our government has in turn, and at the instance of the other parties, prepared and submitted a draft of a treaty which it is hoped will be acceptable to all three powers.

This is now before the foreign office at London and Berlin for consideration, and it is confidently believed here that it will receive unanimous approval, not differing in principle, as already stated, from the original project.

FRICION AMONG PRINTERS.

Union Employes Pass a Resolution Demanding a Nine Hour Day.

There is a possibility of friction between the employing book and job printers and the men of their employ who are members of the local branch of the Typographical Union.

About a year ago the employers, with one exception, numbering nearly a dozen firms, decided upon a nine-hour-and-half day, which was posted. The understanding at that time, according to the employers, was that a nine-hour day would prevail upon the revival of business during the year.

Later when the employing printers posted notice announcing a nine-hour day. A day or two afterwards, however, the notice was withdrawn and the previous action rescinded.

On Friday night the Richmond Typographical Union met and passed a resolution demanding full pay for nine hours work. This action was sanctioned by the International Typographical Union. It is understood that the employers will be notified this week of the action of the Union men. About one hundred will be affected.

HOW IT WOULD WORK.

If the plan to be proposed by Mr. Payne is recommended by the National Committee adopted by the convention, Alabama would have nine delegates; Arkansas, eight; Florida, five; Georgia, ten; Louisiana, six; Mississippi, five, and South Carolina, five—a total of forty-nine, instead of one hundred and twenty-nine, as now provided.

THE DECREASES.

The other decreases would be Colorado, 1; Idaho, 1; Montana, 1; Nebraska, 2; Nevada, 1; North Carolina, 2; Tennessee, 3; Texas, 5; Utah, 1; Virginia, 6, and Wyoming, 1. The total number of delegates would be 89, as at present.

A STATE OF WAR.

Lord Pauncefoot Makes Formal Announcement to Secretary Hay.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—The British Ambassador, Lord Pauncefoot, has informed the Secretary of State that in view of a dispute existing between England and the South African Republic and the Orange Free State.

This notice appears to be couched in similar terms to those addressed by the British Government to the governments of continental Europe. It will probably not materially affect the United States, except to enable the government to deal vigorously with any persons who attempt to recruit in the United States for either of the parties to the war, Boer or British.

Nothing has been heard from Mr. Macgran recently respecting the measure of success attending his efforts to secure for the British interests in the two Dutch republics, which were confined to him.

MRS. MCCORMICK DEAD.

She Was Born in Rockbridge County, Of Distinguished Lineage.

CHICAGO, Nov. 27.—Mrs. Henrietta Hamilton McCormick, a pious resident of Chicago, and the wife of Leander G. McCormick, one of the founders of the McCormick Reaper Works, died last night of cerebral apoplexy, aged seventy-seven years.

She was born in Rockbridge county, Virginia, May 25, 1822, on her father's side she traced her lineage to Robert, Earl of Leicester, brother of William the Conqueror, whose thirteenth descendant married Isabella, a daughter of Robert Bruce.

SUMMARY OF TO-DAY'S NEWS.

Local.

—Boyd-Newton syndicate will not accept franchise in its present form.

—A note written by John T. Alvey found in a bottle.

—Treated trouble with book publishers.

SOUTH'S VOICE TO BE STIFLED

In Republican National Conventions.

H. C. PAYNE'S SCHEME. Wisconsin Member Recommends New Basis of Representation.

PRESENT UNJUST AND UNEQUAL

If Adopted New Plan Would Cut Off Representation of Southern States

Sixty Per Cent, While the Total Number of Delegates Would Still Remain the Same as at Present.

MILWAUKEE, WIS., Nov. 27.—Henry C. Payne, the Wisconsin member, will present at the meeting of the National Republican Committee in Washington, D. C., December 12th, a resolution recommending a change in the basis of representation in future Republican National Conventions. The resolution follows:

"Whereas the present basis of representation in National Conventions is unjust and unequal, and believing that this injustice should be remedied, therefore,

"Resolved, That the Republican National Committee recommend to the next National Convention that a new basis of representation be established, as follows:

THE PLAN.

"Each State to be entitled to four delegates-at-large and one additional delegate for each 10,000 votes, or majority fraction thereof, cast at the last preceding Presidential election for Republican electors; and four delegates from each organized Territory and the District of Columbia."

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