THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

Lambert, W. B. — ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 27, 1899—TWELVE PAGES. SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

AS TO DELAGOA BAY

British Seizure of that Point is Considered Among the Probabilities.

ENGLAND NEEDS IT IN THE PRESENT WAR

Would Prefer to Force the Boers to Make an Aggressive Move There.

THEN STEP IN AND SEIZE EVERYTHING

Boers Surprise a British Outpost and Kill Two Hussars.

GENERAL JOUBERT AGAIN AT THE FRONT

Boer Commander Recovers His Health and Takes the Field—Disease Kills More Englishmen Than Do Bullets.

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LONDON, Dec. 26.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—British seizure of Lourenzo Marquez and Delagoa bay has been anticipated and suggested by all continental diplomats and war experts. It will not be done because of the fear of European complications. The advantages of this move are that the port is only 200 miles from Pretoria, with a good railway, while Durban and Capetown are much farther away. The disadvantages are the fear that feeling in Germany might be aroused and that Lourenzo Marquez is full of fever with some bubonic plague.

Rumors of the seizure of the bay by the British have just been renewed in Berlin and Lisbon, but it is said here that no steps have been taken. Those in a position to know declare that flour shipped from America to Portuguese agents at Delagoa bay will be released after due diplomatic delay. The same persons insist that the British plan is to check as much as possible all shipments to Lourenzo Marquez in order to worry the Boers into taking the aggressive step of invading Portuguese territory and taking Lourenzo Marquez and all war material and food in store there, so that the British navy can then attack the place, capture it and move against the Transvaal through it, on the plea of Boer aggression and without laying the British government open to foreign interference.

English jingo newspapers have already guardedly suggested that the Portuguese at Delagoa bay were in terror of Boer invasion at the present time because war material was not coming through.

The Mail editorially declares that British surveillance at Lourenzo Marquez is a farce and insists that some plan must be found by which the British can hold Delagoa bay and pass troops over the railroad to Transvaal territory. The Mail hopes that the usual meeting at the foreign office today will devise some such plan.

Boers Attack Hussars.

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CHIEVELEY CAMP, Dec. 20.—6:45 p. m.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The Boers surprised an outpost of the Thirteenth Hussars, killing two men and seven horses. The naval guns began shelling the Boer position at 5 o'clock.

PIETERMARITZBURG, Dec. 24.—3:50 p. m.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—A dispatch received by heliograph from Ladysmith says if relief is delayed there is no need of anxiety, as there are ample provisions. The health of the troops is good, considering the season. Their spirits are excellent and they would render a good account of themselves in the probable event of an attack. The left defense is strong.

Joubert Takes the Field.

PRETORIA, Monday, Dec. 18.—General Joubert has recovered and returned to the front today.

There were special services yesterday in the different laagers as thanksgiving for the victories of Colenso, Stormberg and Modder river.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: The Ladysmith list shows that typhoid fever and dysentery are more effective than the Boers' artillery in reducing the strength of the garrison day by day. It is clear that General Buller will renew the attempt to relieve Ladysmith while Lord Roberts is on the sea. He is receiving reinforcements and fresh batteries and ought to be in a position to reopen hostilities in a week or ten days, unless he waits for the seige train.

Boer Guns Remain Silent.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The latest cable dispatches from South Africa show that the situation at the front is practically unchanged. With the exception of desultory artillery practice, to which the Boers do not reply, the British continue to mark time.

The Boers heavily bombarded Ladysmith for a couple of hours December 16, the day after the battle of Tugela river, but little damage was done. They killed one man and wounded two men of the garrison.

Advices from Capetown say the New Zealanders with General French at Nauuwpoort were in a tight corner December 18. They were nearly surrounded by Boers and retired under a hail of bullets fired at short range, but sustained only little loss.

Among the Boers killed at Stormberg were many of that locality who had joined the Orange Free State forces.

Several newspaper correspondents have returned to Capetown from the Modder river, apparently confirming the belief that an immediate advance of the British is projected.

The war office has received the following dispatch from Capetown, dated December 25, saying: There is no change in the situation at Modder river. General Methuen is well entrenched and the Boers have not disturbed him.

General Gatacre reports that a force of 107 police have occupied Dordrecht, the Boers retreating with no loss.

Engagement at Ladysmith.

The war office has received a dispatch from Pietermaritzburg, Natal, dated Sunday, December 24, announcing that in an engagement at Ladysmith December 22, Major A. C. King, Captains Wathen and Oakes and Lieutenant Hulse and Lieutenant Colonel Fawcett were wounded and that nine noncommissioned officers and men were killed and ten wounded. This engagement had not been recorded before this.

A cable dispatch from Capetown, dated Wednesday, December 20, says that glanders has broken out among the American mules, of which there are 1,100 at the Stellenbosch remount farm. Twenty-six of the mules have been destroyed and seventy-eight have been isolated.

The dispatch says sedition is spreading in Cape Colony. Three members of the Cape Parliament are alleged to be implicated and one of them is said to have presented a Free State flag to a Boer commander, at the same time expressing the hope that he would carry it to glory and to victory. Another member of Parliament is said to be recruiting for the Boers. In addition wealthy farmers are now aiding the invaders.

MUST GET BURGHERS IN OPEN

Nebraskan Who Once Fought Against Boers Tells of the Conditions Prevailing There.

FREMONT, Neb., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—J. W. Neill of this city, having served in one campaign against the Boers in the British army, naturally takes much interest in the present war in South Africa. He said this morning to The Bee correspondent: "The British have run up against a hard proposition. I know the Transvaal country mighty well and the Boers, too. They will have to get the Boers out into the open to get at them and it will cost them thousands of men to do it. That is a terribly rough country. It is cut up by mountains and creeks and is a good way from centers of supplies. A few men can defend some of these passes against armies. The British can't gain anything by direct attacks, but will have to maneuver to get the Boers out of their defenses into the open country. The Boers know every foot of Natal, adjoining the Orange Free State, and the Transvaal, and they are all fighters. From my personal knowledge of the country and people and from what I read of the situation down there I think the British will win in the end, but they can't do it by going in from the south and west without tremendous losses. If they could land at Delagoa bay they could easily get an army into the Transvaal and I believe the fighting would soon be over. The climate down there is baking hot and for unacclimated men the campaign can't but be a terrible one in among those hills and rocks and stretches of sand.

"In the section around the Tugela river four Boers are more than a match for ten British soldiers, so you can see it will take a larger army than the English have there to win. The fighting is going to last until they can get the Boers out of the hills into the open. Whenever they once get them out I think, from my knowledge of the Boers, there will be one decisive battle and that will end it. Every Boer is a crack rifle shot, unless they have changed from what they were when I was down there."

NAVAL GUNS HAVE THE RANGE

English Report Discord Between Men from Transvaal and Free State.

MODDER RIVER, Cape Colony, Wednesday, Dec. 20.—The British naval guns command the whole Boer position and possess the exact range of every stone and bush. They frequently plant shells with good advantage in the midst of groups of Boers.

The burghers are reported to be returning home for Christmas.

Recent arrivals from Jacobsdal report that notwithstanding the Boer successes the Free Staters do not expect ultimate victory. They complain of the overbearing conduct of General Cronje's men, who are alleged to be better fed and posted in the safest positions.

The Transvaalers do not conceal their suspicions of the possible defection of the Free Staters and threaten to shoot them at the least sign of wavering. The Free Staters are said to regard subjection to the Transvaal as more to be feared than subjection to Great Britain.

REPORT THE FENIANS ACTIVE

Army of 125,000 Said to Be Organizing to Cross Canadian Border.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 26.—A special from Dunkirk says: The Fenians are said to be organizing here for an invasion of Canada. A man known to have knowledge of the conditions of Fenian affairs in Dunkirk says this city has been called upon to raise 600 men to form a part of New York's quota of the 125,000 men that are to be enrolled throughout the country.

At the present time 500 men are known to be mustered with the Fenians here; the remaining 100 will be obtained with little difficulty. It is currently reported and extensively credited that the Fenians have two carloads of arms and munitions of war in concealment in or near this city. This material is said to have been in the possession of the Dunkirk Fenians for some years.

HEADING OFF FILIBUSTERS

Government of Great Britain Suggests Action by the United States.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—A special to the Record from Washington says: The British embassy, it is understood, has within twenty-four hours called the attention of the State department to the pro-Boer feeling in the United States, with the suggestion that this government exercise the utmost caution in preventing the sailing of filibustering expeditions to South Africa. The State department replied that it would do its best to preserve the law of neutrality and cited the fact that a vessel which sailed recently from Baltimore to Philadelphia, presumably destined for Lorenzo Marquez, is being closely watched by the revenue cutter service. This vessel, it is said, was secured for the shipment of 800 men from the United States to South Africa for participation in the South African war on the Boer side.

Hay Communicates with Choate.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Secretary of State John Hay has communicated with United States Ambassador Choate in London regarding the seizure off the coast of South Africa of three vessels loaded with American goods and consigned to merchants in Lourenzo Marquez, Delagoa bay. R. W. Geldart, an export merchant of South William street, is one of the sufferers by the confiscation of the goods in transit and he has laid the facts before Secretary Hay.

One of the Rothschilds Volunteers.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—Mr. Lionel Walter Rothschild, unionist member of Parliament for the Aylesbury district of Buckinghamshire, eldest son of the first Baron Rothschild and the latter's heir, has volunteered for service in South Africa. He was born in 1868 and is unmarried.

Knows Nothing of Invasion.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—John T. Keating, national president of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, declared tonight that he knew nothing of the rumored armed invasion of Canada by four columns of Irishmen.

Capture Army Supplies.

DURBAN, Tuesday, Dec. 19.—The Norwegian bark Regina, from Cava, loaded with stretchers and railway sleepers, has been captured near Delagoa bay and brought here by the British second-class cruiser Forte.

Lord Stanley on Roberts' Staff.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—Lord Stanley, eldest son of the earl of Derby and member of Parliament for the West Houghton division of Lancashire, has been ordered to join Lord Roberts' staff forthwith.

Causes Canadians to Laugh.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 26.—The stories regarding a Fenian invasion of Canada telegraphed here from the United States are laughed at by the militia department and the people generally.

FUN FOR THE LITTLE ONES

Queen Victoria Gladdens Many Childish Hearts with a Christmas Tree.

NOVEL FUNCTION IN WINDSOR CASTLE

England's Ruler Provides Bounteous Entertainment for the Wives and Children of Her Soldiers Now Fighting in Africa.

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WINDSOR, Dec. 26.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Queen Victoria's Christmas tree party to the wives and children of guardsmen in South Africa at Windsor Castle was a scene of unconstrained enjoyment. The guests arrived in the royal equipages and at 4:15 were marshalled in the Waterloo chamber by the mayor of Windsor, where during forty-five minutes' waiting for the queen they romped and played round games and rolled on the rich, soft carpets to their hearts' content.

At 5 o'clock St. George's Hall was thrown open and the women and children pressed in to find the queen in her wheel chair beside the towering Christmas tree, glittering with electric lights and bristling with toys. Princess Christian was at the queen's right and Princess Beatrice with her children at her left and the maids of honor stood around. The queen was dressed in black with a lace shawl across her shoulders, a peaked widow's cap and gold-framed miniature on her breast. She smiled somewhat sadly when a hush fell on the throng as it reached her presence and the children gazed curiously at her. She had told the officials: "We must have plenty of light and brightness for the little ones," and the gorgeous magnificence filled the children with delightful awe.

The queen became radiantly smiling as each mother brought forward her children. An appropriate gift was taken from the tree by the princesses and maids of honor and passed to her, which she handed with charming motherliness to the recipients. Some children nervously clung to their mothers' skirts. The queen bent forward encouragingly and watched the children's eyes glisten as she pressed some handsome present into their little hands. Others were bold beyond the limits of court customs and advanced confidently and scrutinized the toys with a critical eye, but Victoria was gracious and affable alike to all and fully alive to the humor of the situation.

Boy Makes His Bow.

One over-anxious mother told her little 5-year-old toddler: "Bow, Jimmy, bow." The boy was confused, turned back and made an obeisance in the opposite direction, whereat the queen with a lace handkerchief to her mouth almost laughed outright. The mother pulled the little chap round sharply, whereat the queen gently interposed: "Never mind, my little fellow," and patted him on the head. Another lad gave the correct military salute, but the succeeding one beat him by gravely saluting with both hands. The queen gave each one additional toy. One cheerful old woman went right up to her majesty, leaned her hand familiarly on the queen's resting on the side of her chair and said: "This is the greatest honor of our lives, your majesty." The queen answered:

"I have not enjoyed a party more for many years. It gladdens my heart to give pleasure to the families of my gallant soldiers."

The children were now creating a tremendous din. There was a perfect babble of squeaky instruments; thumping drums. Joyous laughter and childish chatter rang through the historic hall, sacred to stately functions. Then they set to at a high tea, served on two long tables. The guests were waited on by the princesses, the duke of Connaught and Lord Lorne, who saw that the little ones wanted for nothing. Some children would stand on their seats. All became boisterously happy while the queen wheeled around the tables addressing some here and there, telling them:

"Be happy, my children. I want to see you enjoy yourselves."

After one hour and a quarter's stay the queen withdrew, waving adieu to the party as she reached the door. She showed far greater interest in the boys than the girls and asked the names of a few, particularly pretty or sturdy youngsters.

The entertainment was an unqualified success. The children left reluctantly to be driven to their homes after the merriest party ever held within Windsor Castle's storied halls.

BOERS USE BRITISH VESSELS

Have Been Shipping Supplies from New Orleans to Rotterdam—Then Reshipping.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 26.—The British consul here is authority for the statement that New Orleans has been one of the chief ports used by Boer agents for securing supplies from the United States for the Transvaal and that British ships have been used largely in their shipment. Corn, it seems, has been one of the principal staples bought for the purpose and was bought and shipped away from this port without creating either comment or suspicion. The British authorities, however, appeared to have been possessed of more or less information on the subject for some time, but have been poverless to stop the shipments.

The plan, the British consul says, has been to ship the corn, etc., from New Orleans to Rotterdam and there it was shipped to ports from which the Transvaal could get it and that British ships were used to carry the supplies as far as Rotterdam.

Investigation here tonight revealed the fact that the quantity of corn shipped from New Orleans to Rotterdam this season has been in excess of 3,000,000 bushels, while the legitimate trade has never required more than 400,000 bushels.

Kitchener at Gibraltar.

GIBRALTAR, Dec. 26.—General Lord Kitchener has arrived here from Egypt.

NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MEET

President Springer Issues Official Call—To Continue in Session Four Days.

DENVER, Dec. 26.—President John W. Springer of the National Live Stock association today issued the official call for the big annual convention of his association to meet in Fort Worth, Tex., on January 16 and continue in session four days.

The convention will be composed of delegates representing all of the largest live stock associations in the country, all the big stock yard companies and many of the big railroads. It is expected that there will be over 1,000 delegates in attendance, representing every state and territory.

According to the call, among the subjects to be discussed are the questions of leasing the public lands to stockmen for grazing in forest reserves of the west, the taking of a complete census of live stock next year, the work of gathering of vital statistics relative to live stock commerce by the association, matters relating to transportation of live stock by railroads and subjects of a kindred nature.

Low rates have been made on all railroads for this meeting and it is expected to be the most important gathering of stockmen ever held in the country. Many matters of importance to the industry will be considered and passed upon by the convention.

MAINE'S DEAD ON HOME SOIL

Coffins Transferred at Newport News to a Special Train for Arlington Cemetery.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Dec. 26.—The Maine's dead were brought ashore at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon on a lighter and transferred without ceremonies to a Chesapeake & Ohio special baggage train waiting to take them to Arlington. A large throng watched the transfer solemnly. The train left at 10 o'clock tonight. The coffins on the lighter were in two large blocks, completely covered with flags, on top of which were wreaths in profusion. At 10 o'clock this morning an official visit was paid the Texas by the mayor, president of the Business Men's association and representatives of the military from here during the late war.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The special train bearing the remains of the Maine dead is expected to arrive at Rosslin, Va., tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock. From there they will be taken in a wagon to Arlington cemetery and placed in tents and shelter boxes. Each casket will be draped with a storm flag, and the head board bearing the number of the grave will be placed on each casket. A marine guard of twenty-five men in command of a commissioned officer will meet the cortege at the cemetery and be maintained over the remains until after the interment.

Barring accidents and unavoidable delays the funeral ceremonies at Arlington will take place at 11 o'clock Thursday morning. The ceremonies will be simple and will consist of prayer, the reading of scripture, dirge by the Marine band and the firing of volleys over the graves. A covered stand, appropriately decorated with the national colors, has been erected at the site of the graves for the use of the president and other distinguished personages who have indicated their intention of being present. Captain Sigsbee, commanding the battleship Texas, which brought the remains home from Havana, will have charge of the ceremonies at the cemetery. Father Chidwick, who was chaplain of the Maine, and who performed the sacred offices for the dead at the Spanish cemetery, will conduct the religious services at Arlington.

A troop of cavalry from Fort Myer probably will assist in the ceremonies at the graves, but with this exception the demonstration will be entirely naval. The escort will consist entirely of marines and a small body of bluejackets, headed by the full marine band under Lieutenant Santleman. The band will render appropriate music at the cemetery and the marines will fire volleys over the graves.

"Taps" probably will be sounded by buglers from the cavalry band at Fort Myer.

The Texas, which brought the remains here, will go to Lambert's point for coal and thence to Old Point to await orders, which, it is expected, will be sent it to join the North Atlantic Squadron. Captain Sigsbee is expecting orders which will detach him from the ship and transfer him to the bureau of intelligence.

OUTLINE OF SENATE PROGRAM

Senator Fairbanks Discusses National Questions—People Will Settle Annexation Problem Next Year.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 26.—Senator Charles W. Fairbanks arrived home today and gave the following interview, outlining the senate program and commenting upon national questions. He said:

"The first thing after the holiday recess will be the consideration of the currency bill. This matter will be taken up on January 4 and there will in all probability be a month of discussion before its passage. It will not take longer than that, however, and the bill will pass the senate beyond all doubt.

"After that there may be some discussion about the Philippine question, if the resolutions of Senator Hoar receive attention. However, the opportunity of discussing this question will be given during the next presidential campaign; it will be one of the leading questions. The phase of the question which will receive attention at the hands of the senate will be the best way in which to immediately cease hostilities and bring the islands under the subjugation of the United States. The question of annexation will come up afterwards and will be discussed by the people at large during the next campaign.

"The investigation of the Roberts case is in the hands of the court appointed for that purpose and the final decision will likely be made in the near future. There can be but one outcome and that is that he will be returned to the state of Utah."

"Has the dispute between the United States and England concerning the Alaskan boundary been settled yet?"

"This matter is still unsettled and negotiations are still pending between the two countries. Just what definite shape the matter will assume is not easily determined."

Mr. Fairbanks said the sentiment in favor of retaining the Philippines is very strong in Washington and it is regarded as one of the most important of the issues for the coming presidential campaign. He thinks the money question will be one of the issues, but not one of the most important.

WELCOMED TO KANSAS CITY

Home of Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, Formerly of Omaha, Visited by Burglars.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Davidson, formerly of Omaha and who recently moved to Kansas City, where Mr. Davidson is assistant manager of the canned meat department of the Armour Packing company, were robbed Christmas eve of over $300 worth of clothing, jewelry and silverware. Sunday afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Davidson went out to make some calls and when they returned, about 10 o'clock, found the house open and its contents overhauled and articles of value missing.

Suspend Jockey Joe Weber.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—The stewards of the California Jockey club have suspended Jockey Joe Weber indefinitely for his rides on King Carnival November 21 and on Loving Cup December 20. The stable of George W. Miller, the St. Louis horseman, who owns Loving Cup, was reinstated, as it was shown he bet on the mare when she made such a poor showing.

Miners Pardoned.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 26.—William Consier, James Galloway and Rudolph Beitz, three men serving a six months' jail sentence here for participating in the Carterville mining riot, were discharged today by Judge Allen of the United States court, after serving three months. The court extended leniency at the urgent request of prominent labor officials.

SUPPOSED DEAD MAN ALIVE

Identification of Aaron Wolfsohn at Chicago is Considered Complete.

DID NOT DIE IN LOS ANGELES LAST YEAR

New York Life Insurance Company Sues to Recover Ten Thousand Dollars Paid to Public Administrator at Los Angeles.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—As a result of the telegrams sent to Los Angeles, Cal., stating Aaron Wolfsohn, on the finding of whose supposed body the New York Life Insurance company paid the public administrator of his estate $10,000, was alive in this city, Attorney Edward O'Bryan of the company received several messages today asking for a confirmation.

"Wolfsohn's identification is complete," said O'Bryan. "Besides his own affidavit I have the sworn statements of twenty others who knew him, among others his brother-in-law, Michael Hesselberg of St. Louis, and his cousin, Rose Blumenthal of this city. The company will have no trouble in recovering its $10,000."

Wolfsohn left Chicago late in the day after signing an affidavit further establishing his identity and the fact that he is no corpse. This oath is attached to a photograph taken in this city.

"This picture," he says, "is Aaron Wolfsohn. I am the identical person insured by the New York Life company for $10,000, and am alive and well."

Before leaving here Wolfsohn said that he would marry soon. His bride, it is understood, will be the Los Angeles widow, Mrs. Mary O'Neill, whose identification of the supposititious Wolfsohn induced the insurance company to pay the face value of the policy to the public administrator.

Asked how he had met Wolfsohn and what pressure was exerted on the latter to draw him into the light, the lawyer refused to specify.

"The company is satisfied," he said, "to recover its money. The identity of the dead man or why he was palmed off as Wolfsohn does not interest us now."

Identification Complete.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 26.—M. N. Sale, attorney for Benjamin Wolfsohn, the father of Aaron Wolfsohn, the young man who added another chapter to the now famous $10,000 insurance suit at Chicago, in an interview today stated that he had no doubts about the genuineness of the telegram mentioned in the Chicago dispatch.

"Mr. O'Bryan, the insurance company's attorney," said Sale, "was here last Friday. He had a picture of the corpse found in the O'Neill woman's room in Los Angeles and we went together to the Wolfsohn home and compared pictures. The corpse did not look at all like young Wolfsohn, except that some person had brushed the hair in the style that Wolfsohn usually wore his. O'Bryan also had affidavits signed by the supposed suicide that he was alive. M. Hesselberg, a brother-in-law, at once recognized the writing as that of Aaron Wolfsohn."

In order to complete the identification of Wolfsohn Hesselberg went to Chicago Saturday with O'Bryan and he is the brother-in-law referred to in the telegram received Christmas day by the public administrator at Los Angeles.

Concerning the woman in the case, Sale agreed that she now claimed to be Wolfsohn's common law wife.

"She had," said Sale, "evidently kept quiet until the proper time, in the hope of securing the money, not knowing what evidence the insurance company had accumulated. The burden is now thrown on her. She will have to answer where and how that corpse came to be in her room."

Young Wolfsohn has not been in St. Louis for nearly two years.

This strange story had its beginning on July 10 last. Aaron Wolfsohn was then living in Los Angeles, Cal. On that date his father, Benjamin Wolfsohn, a cutter and manufacturer of men's clothing at 718 Lucas avenue, St. Louis, received news that his son was dead, having breathed his last by inhaling gas with suicidal intent in the rooms of a woman, who at that time refused to give her name. The son's life was insured for $10,000 in the New York Life Insurance company. Evidence was produced purporting to prove that the dead man was none other than Aaron Wolfsohn. The insurance was paid to the public administrator in Los Angeles, but before the money could be turned over to the young man's family Aaron was reported to have been recognized in the flesh, traversing the streets of Chicago. The discovery was made by an uncle residing in that city and the young man's parents were notified and on July 11 the attorneys, Sale & Sale of St. Louis, wired to the headquarters of the New York Life Insurance company, which at once made a demand on the public administrator for $10,000, the amount of the insurance on Wolfsohn's life, which is still held by him.

Later the report that he had been identified in Chicago was denied, and thus matters have stood until the present time.

THINK DEAD MAN HAS DOUBLE

Life Insurance Agent at San Francisco Does Not Believe Chicago Story Regarding Wolfsohn.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 26.—When S. A. D. Jones, the local agent of the New York Life Insurance company, was interviewed today regarding a story from Chicago that Aaron Wolfsohn, whom he insured for $10,000 and who committed suicide and was buried here, and who had turned up in Chicago, said he could not believe the Chicago story. Mr. Jones does not understand how the thing was brought about, but he is positive that the man who is insured as Aaron Wolfsohn is dead. He has taken every means possible to identify the man and says there is no doubt. However, he is going east to make a fuller investigation.

Mrs. O'Neill, the woman who paid for the funeral of the man who committed suicide, also supports Jones. She was present when the medical examination for the insurance was made. She was very intimate with Wolfsohn; she gave him $500 to go east with and corresponded with him while he was there. When he returned she happened to be in San Francisco and did not see him until after he was dead, but she positively identified the body. There is only one theory and that is that there are two Aaron Wolfsohns and that they look alike. The matter is a great mystery.

COLORED MURDERER ESCAPES

Walter Cotton, Sentenced to Hang at Norfolk, Va., Walks Out of the County Jail.

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 26.—Walter Cotton, a desperate negro murderer, sentenced to hang January 12, walked out of the county jail here at 5 o'clock this morning, despite the presence of J. Saunders, the night death watch in the cell, and escaped. Saunders was asleep in a rocking chair.

Cotton, who in some way filed away two burglar proof steel bars of his cell, took the overcoat and cap of the death watch and stole away without awakening him. Saunders has been arrested. Cotton evidently received assistance from the outside.

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—
Colder; Variable Winds.

Temperature at Omaha yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	6	1 p. m.	16
6 a. m.	6	2 p. m.	19
7 a. m.	6	3 p. m.	20
8 a. m.	6	4 p. m.	20
9 a. m.	6	5 p. m.	20
10 a. m.	8	6 p. m.	19
11 a. m.	10	7 p. m.	19
12 m.	14	8 p. m.	18
		9 p. m.	18

HAS A TEMPESTUOUS VOYAGE

Steamer Noranmore Arrives from Liverpool—Unknown Bark Founders at Sea—Twelve Men Lost.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—A special to the Post from Norfolk, Va., says: The big Johnston line steamer Noranmore arrived here this afternoon from Liverpool after one of the most tempestuous voyages on record. Captain Richardson, the commander, reported having seen an unknown bark founder at sea with a crew of twelve men. The Noranmore, which flies the Belgian flag, is of 3,000 tons register. It sailed from Liverpool for Norfolk December 17 and, being nearly a week overdue, the agents were anxious about it.

The hurricane waves which swept this coast last Saturday struck it at sea at night. The waves rolled over it almost continuously and would, Captain Richardson says, have swamped an ordinary vessel. Soon after the storm arose the Noranmore overhauled a strange bark which was on the point of foundering. Only the stump of one mast still stood, the other having been cut or carried away. Several lights were burning on board and twelve men, believed from their gestures to be foreigners, were seen running about the decks, which were awash.

A boat's crew in one of the Noranmore's boats was put over the side and the men pulled for the bark. The boat was swamped almost immediately. The men, who wore life-jackets, were picked up by a second boat, which was, however, compelled to return to the Noranmore. While the rescue of these men was being made the bark disappeared in the dark and Captain Richardson says that beyond doubt it and the crew went down. Search made after day broke revealed no sign of it. The Noranmore's steel bow was stove in and two blades of the propeller were lost, but it managed to make this port without the loss of a man.

BRYAN TO RETURN SATURDAY

After Visiting in Lincoln and Omaha He Will Go East to Deliver Several Speeches.

AUSTIN, Tex., Dec. 26.—W. J. Bryan's attention was called to a dispatch from Washington, stating that he had written Congressman Daly of New Jersey that he would make several speeches in the east, discussing trusts and imperialism, and he was asked as to whether the report indicated an intention of abandoning the silver question. He replied:

"Congressman Daly has probably been misquoted. I expect to make several speeches in the east, but I expect to discuss the money question along with other questions. There are three questions now prominently before the people, towit: The money question, the trust question and the Philippine question. Whenever I make a political speech I discuss all three questions."

Bryan leaves here Saturday for his trip to Lincoln, Omaha, Kansas City and Chicago, thence to the east. He will be gone about a month.

Bryan today received a letter from Andrew Carnegie, stating that he would gladly furnish the money for the erection of a library building at Lincoln, Neb., which it is estimated will cost between $50,000 and $75,000.

BLIND MAN KILLS HIS WIFE

Chokes Her to Death, Then Surrenders, Saying She Tried to Murder Him First.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 26.—Franklin B. Livingstone, a blind man, aged 56 years, choked his wife, Rosie Livingstone, to death today at their home in this city and then gave himself up to the police.

Livingstone says that his wife tried to smother him with a feather bed, but that he succeeded in choking her and put her body in the bathtub. He was locked up. The police found the nude body of the woman in the bathtub, as Livingstone had said. Both rooms gave evidence of a struggle.

Jealousy is thought to have been the motive for the crime. The man is a civil war veteran, having lost his eyesight by a shell in the battle of Fair Oaks. He had a pension of $72 a month.

FOUR WOMEN REMOVE TAGS

Important Witness Found in Connection with Michigan's Alleged Military Deal Fraud.

LANSING, Mich., Dec. 26.—The grand jury reconvened this afternoon. Since adjournment the officers have made what is claimed to be an important find in connection with the alleged fraudulent military deal, by locating the four women who transferred the tags upon the goods which were sold by the state and replaced them with Henderson-Ames company's marks.

They all swear that they were hired by Mr. Bickerstaff of the Henderson-Ames company to do the work and all reside at Kalamazoo. The women assert that they removed the buttons from the soldiers' clothes and the linings from the caps and replaced them with others.

BOUTELLE IS SERIOUSLY ILL

Maine Congressman Taken to a Sanitarium at Boston—Taken Ill Last Week While Enroute Home.

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—The condition of Congressman C. A. Boutelle of Maine, who was taken ill in this city last week and later taken to his home at Bangor, is understood to be quite serious and it is stated that he was brought to a sanitarium in this city.

Movements of Ocean Vessels, Dec. 26.

At London—Arrived—Mesaba, from New York.

At New York—Sailed—Karamania, for Glasgow. Arrived—Menominee, from London.

At Gibraltar—Arrived, 25th—Kaiser Wilhelm II, from New York for Naples and Genoa.

At Auckland—Sailed—Steamer Moana, for San Francisco.

OPPOSE THE TREATY

Reciprocity Agreement with the Argentine Republic Excites Opposition.

CATTLE AND COAL PRODUCERS OBJECT

Treaty Reduces Tariff on Wool and Hides Imported from Argentine.

KNOCKS OFF TWENTY PER CENT ON RATE

Nebraska, Being a Wool Producing State, is Vitally Interested.

UNITED STATES INDUSTRY THREATENED

Question of Ratification is Now Being Considered and Friends and Enemies of the Treaty Are Counting Noses.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—(Special Telegram.)—There is liable to be considerable opposition on the part of western senators, and especially from those living in cattle and wool-producing states, against ratification of the reciprocity treaty between the Argentine Republic and the United States. Under the terms of this convention ratification must take place before March 1 and friends of the measure are already commencing to "count noses" in an endeavor to ascertain whether they have votes enough to force ratification in the senate.

The treaty reduces the tariff on wool and hides imported from Argentine 20 per cent and this enormous reduction is what is organizing opposition to the measure. Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, Iowa, Texas and the Dakotas are vitally interested in this question, as they represent the cattle-producing and wool-growing interests of the United States. Nebraska is becoming so large a factor in the feeding of sheep that it can with entire justice be classed as a wool-producing state.

Argentine is one of the largest producers of wool in the world, statistics of last year showing that the republic had 75,000,000 sheep within its borders. Under normal conditions Argentine exports to the United States from 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 pounds of wool per annum, but the immense foreign demand of last year cut this yearly exportation to 6,000,000 pounds. Even though our importation showed a falling off from 10,000,000 to 15,000,000 pounds of wool, shepherds and wool-growers are up in arms against this feature of the treaty between Argentine and the United States and they say unless something is done for their protection the wool-growing and hide-producing industry of the country will be ruined.

Stamps Not Required.

According to a ruling just made by Internal Revenue Commissioner G. W. Wilson, receipts for the monthly dues and assessments in fraternal life insurance companies are not required to have stamps when cashed by banks. This matter came up for decision through William F. Sharp, illustrious protector of the Royal Highlanders of Aurora, Neb., and was presented to the commissioner by Congressman Stark. It appears that J. E. Houtz, collector of internal revenue for the Nebraska district, refused to recognize the ruling made by Acting Commissioner Williams in October last touching on this same point, which complicated matters to such an extent that an appeal was taken to Commissioner Wilson. The latter, after inquiring into the merits of the case, issued an order to Collector Houtz that the former ruling of his office must stand and that he should forthwith inform his deputies to this effect. This ruling affects all fraternal organizations having life insurances attached to membership.

The Clark contest, which is shortly to commence in the senate, as to the right of the Montana senator to hold his seat, will cost the government nearly or quite $40,000. Eighty witnesses are to be subpoenaed from Montana and as they will be allowed 7 cents per mile each will draw $833.20. While in Washington they will receive $3 per diem and it is expected the hearing will last from three to five days. If the witnesses remain here five days they will receive $1,200, which, added to $26,656 mileage, makes the snug sum of $27,856, to say nothing of the pay of messengers, stenographers, etc. This and the Roberts case of Utah promise to cost the government more money than ever paid to settle legislative contests.

Bits of Washington News.

W. F. Gurley and wife are guests of Mrs. Gurley's mother in Georgetown.

Mrs. Neville, wife of the Nebraska congressman, is quite ill from an attack of quinsy.

Senator Gear left today for Burlington, Ia., to remain until after his election or defeat. He confidently predicts the former.

Indian Commissioner Jones announced today that Superintendent C. F. Pierce of the Oneida (Wis.) Indian school has been ordered transferred to the Flandreau (S. D.) school to succeed Superintendent Davis, removed.

F. U. Vallereux was today appointed postmaster at Bitter Creek, Sweetwater county, Wyo.

An order was issued today establishing a postoffice at Crona, O'Brien county, Ia., with Henry D. Year postmaster. An order was also issued to discontinue the postoffice at Rives, Brule county, S. D. Mail will be sent to Lyonville.

Sam Milton, now of Redfield, S. D., and the editor of the Journal-Observer of that place, is in Washington, his old home, for a stay of about ten days. He is stopping with his brother on Morgan street, Northwest.

TO TREAT SPANIARDS ALIKE

All Dons and Their Families Falling Into American Hands Will Be Sent Home.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—At the cabinet meeting today it was decided to construe that portion of the treaty with Spain regarding the return of Spanish soldiers and prisoners of war in the most liberal way. By the terms of the treaty the United States agreed to transport all Spanish soldiers and prisoners of war serving in the conquered territory to Spain. Quite a number of disputed questions have been raised in connection with the repatriation of the Spanish soldiers serving in the Philippines and they have been the subject of considerable correspondence between General Otis and the Spanish representatives at Manila. In the peace treaty various terms are used—"Spanish soldiers," "Spanish prisoners," "prisoners in the hands of insurgents," etc. After discussing the question today the cabinet decided to construe the language of the treaty liberally; indeed, to stretch it not only to cover all Spanish prisoners in the hands of