

The News of the Week.

The Boxer disturbances in China continue according to a dispatch from Victoria, B. C. It is reported that two large cities in the Schuan province have their gates closed and a state of siege has been declared and though troops have been sent there to raise the siege, the attempt has failed.

An interesting dispatch from Chicago, Ill., dated December 17, says: The office of X-ray expert and electrical diagnostician of the law department of Chicago has been created and will be filled by Dr. H. Preston Pratt. In his letter tending the position to Dr. Pratt, City Attorney John E. Owens says: "This office has become necessary on account of the numerous attempts at fraud through the evidence of X-ray and so-called electrical experts in claims against the city for personal injuries.

A cablegram of December 16 reports that the town of Andijan, Ferghana government, was totally destroyed by an earthquake today. The number of fatalities is not yet ascertained. Shocks were felt in New Marghelan and surrounding villages and a railway at Andijan was destroyed for a considerable distance. Food and clothing are being sent to Andijan. Andijan was a town of Russians, Central Asia, seventy-three miles from Khokand. It had a population of about 30,000 souls. A later report, dated December 18, gives the number of those killed as 155 people, with over 300 injured and the destruction of about 3,000 residences.

Gen. George Moormann, whose death was reported recently, was adjutant general of the united confederate veterans and had served with distinction through the civil war on the confederate side. His death took place in New Orleans.

On December 17 it was reported from Denver, Colo., that nearly 9,000 Boers, it is said, are preparing to "trek" to America, and will settle in Colorado, New Mexico and Texas. The representative of this movement is General Pearson, late quartermaster general of the South African republic, whose headquarters are in New York. Colorado friends of the Boers have been in communication with the general with regard to new lands for the settlers, and Gen. M. DeVilliers, who is now looking over these lands, has expressed himself as very favorably impressed with this state.

On December 19 it was reported from St. Petersburg that four hundred thousand persons are reported to be destitute and starving, as a result of the crop failure in Finland. The Anglo-American church here has undertaken to feed and clothe the school children of four Finnish parishes, and Pastor Francis has issued an appeal for assistance in this work. He says the conditions today are worse than those of 1867, when 100,000 persons died.

A true bill for treason was returned against Arthur Lynch in London on December 19. It will be remembered that Mr. Lynch, who is a member of parliament from Galway, was arrested on June 11 on a charge of high treason on account of the part he took in the South African war where it is al-

leged that he commanded the Irish brigade. An Associated press dispatch says: The lord chief justice, Baron Alverstone, in charging the jury, remarked that it was sixty-two years since a grand jury had to deal with such a charge, which was the highest crime known in law. Colonel Lynch's trial at the bar is expected to begin January 20.

An Associated press report from Concord, N. H., under date of December 19, says: The convention for the revision of the constitution of the state concluded its labors and took final adjournment today. It has framed nine amendments to the constitution. These provide for the prohibition of trusts, for the extension of suffrage to women, for a tax upon inheritances and franchises, for an educational qualification of the suffrage, to strike the word "Protestant" from the bill of rights, to establish voting precincts, to place representation in the legislature upon a new basis, to extend the criminal jurisdiction of police courts and to require the examination of commissioned officers in the militia.

According to a correspondent of the Associated press at Caracas, Venezuela, a copy of the answer made by the Venezuelan government to the German note has been secured in which answer the position of the republic is outlined and a determination is expressed to deal honestly with all nations that hold claims against it. It is also reported that the blockade has at last been ordered and is to extend to the ports of La Guayra, Puerto Cabello, Coro, Maracaibo, Carupano and Barcelona.

A cablegram from Manila, under date of December 19, says: The roundup of Ladrones in Risil province is proceeding. A large force of constabulary is in the field and the Manila police are co-operating with it. They are cordoning the north part of the city to prevent the Ladrones entering. The United States fleet is assembled for the evolutions which are to commence tomorrow and continue for a fortnight. They will consist largely in landing tactics and the seizure, fortifying and supplying of a naval base on the west coast of Luzon, near Subig. The battleship Kentucky is here and the Oregon is expected daily.

On December 19, according to a cablegram from Berlin, United States Minister Tower presented his credentials to Emperor William. The members of the embassy—First Secretary Dodge, Naval Attache Potts and Military Attache Biddle—were also presented.

On December 20 it was announced from Louisiana, Mo., that Gen. David B. Henderson, speaker of the house of representatives, had made a gift to the people of that village of two blocks of city property overlooking the Mississippi river to be converted into a park. It is said that Mr. Henderson first began his career in Louisiana, Mo.

On December 20 the funeral of Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant took place. Her remains were placed in the sarcophagus beside those of her husband in the tomb overlooking the Hudson river.

It was reported from St. Louis, Mo., on December 20, that contest proceedings were begun today by George D. Reynolds, recent republican nom-

inee in the Twelfth Missouri congressional district against James G. Butler, for the seat of representative. Notice of the institution of proceedings were served on Mr. Butler tonight. The notice alleges fraudulent voting in the recent election.

It is expected that the completion of the Pacific cable between San Francisco and Honolulu will be completed in a few days and the opening of the cable will be celebrated as a holiday, according to dispatches from that place.

A severe trolley car accident near New York on December 20 resulted in the fatal injury of several passengers and the bruising of perhaps sixty others. The accident was caused by the collision of the car with a freight train.

From Des Moines, Ia., comes the information on December 20 that oil has been discovered issuing from the banks of the Coon river near Grant City in Sac county. A quart of the oil was sent to Ames college for analysis and found to be 80 per cent pure. The discoverer, a woman, has quietly leased 6,000 acres in the locality. A representative of the Pennsylvania Oil company and of Des Moines capitalists has been endeavoring to buy the lease contracts.

An interesting cablegram from Rome, dated December 20, says: The long standing differences between the German Emperor William and the vatican, respecting the training of candidates for the priesthood of Alsace-Lorraine, was satisfactorily adjusted today. Cardinal Rampolla, the papal secretary of state, in behalf of the pope, and Baron von Hertling, representing the emperor, agreed that

the vatican shall organize a theological school in connection with the university of Strasburg under the same rules as those at Benn and Bresslau. The appointment of the faculty will be subject to the approval of the bishop of Strasburg. The existing episcopal seminary at Strasburg, to whose pro-French influence the emperor objected, remains intact, but will be distinct from the new school.

President Roosevelt has been asked to act as arbitrator in the differences between Venezuela and the European powers and on December 21 it was announced from London that it is believed there that the president had consented to act in that capacity. In view of this statement a cablegram from Rome, under the same date, is significant. The cablegram says: It has been learned here that not one of the allies at present contemplates submitting the Venezuelan difficulty to The Hague court. The Venezuelan situation was fully discussed by King Victor Emanuel and Foreign Minister Prinetti at their semi-weekly conference this morning, and much satisfaction with the more peaceful turn of events was expressed.

It was announced from Brussels on December 21 that King Leopold has concluded negotiations with the Chinese government for the cession of a tract of territory similar to the settlements of other European nations. Belgium has accepted this arrangement instead of financial compensation for the Belgian claims arising from the recent rebellion.

Reports of a bad railroad wreck came from Martinez, Cal., on December 21. The number of killed is twenty and the injured about twenty-two, the accident being caused by the disre-

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