

The Norfolk News
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The New and the Old.
Again we are at the threshold of a New Year.

Again we must part company with that which has become familiar to us, 1899 reaches out its hands for a final farewell greeting, and the tiny, new 1900 casts longing glances toward us for immediate and prompt recognition.

While it is true that in reality "we live in deeds, not years," and that time itself swings on, yesterday, today and forever, unconscious of days, months and years, nevertheless these arbitrary divisions of time which we make and emphasize are of great value to us. They serve as hooks upon which we can hang up events and pages on which we can classify them.

So at the beginning of each new year it is but natural and fitting that retrospect and prospect should follow each other. It is a time to take account of the world's stock as well as our own in order that we may profit from what we learn.

Before we dismiss 1899 from our presence and our thought, let us note what it has wrought and give the proper appreciation of its services to mankind.

In our own country it has been a year of marked improvement and progress in very many different directions. The crops have yielded abundant harvests, labor has been happily and steadily employed and capital has sought and found profitable investment. No epidemic or appalling catastrophe of any kind has visited us. In a word it has been a year of blessing. Our commerce both at home and abroad has increased at a marvelous rate and never has there been in any previous year of the nation's history such an immense volume of trade as 1899 has witnessed. It has been a year of expansion both at home and abroad for the great republic.

In territory we have added Porto Rico and the Philippines to our possessions. While the Filipinos have continued their rebellion against American authority and the war has had to be pursued, yet even here—the one sad spot in our current history—there is every indication that the worst is over, and that very soon the stars and stripes will float over the Philippines in untroubled quiet, giving the blessings of our civilization to those people.

Cuba has felt the kindly and beneficent influence of American rule and under the control of Governor General Wood will soon be ready to give expression as to what it wants in the way of self government.

During the year educational interests have been extensively promoted and the public libraries and benevolent institutions have been handsomely endowed. The helping hand has been extended in a noticeable way both in the social life of the people and in the humane policies of government.

The treaty of Paris was ratified, adding many miles of island territory to our domain and imposing upon this nation the tremendous and splendid responsibility and duty of caring for the welfare of millions of strange peoples, now entrusted to us.

The home coming of the hero of Manila afforded the people of the eastern seaboard an opportunity to give an ovation to him unparalleled yet in the history of the country and the whole nation paid fitting honors to Admiral Dewey.

The return of many different volunteer regiments from the far off Philippines, together with the visit of the president, gave the people of the central west a chance to exhibit in unwonted degree their regard for those who had perilled their lives at the call of their country and vent their enthusiasm for the flag.

The fall elections demonstrated beyond question that the people as a whole endorsed and sustained the president's foreign policy. They also made it quite certain that Mr. McKinley and Mr. Bryan will again face one another next year as the presidential candidates of their respective parties, with the chances from all present indications decidedly in favor of the president's re-election.

Another event of national importance was the voluntary retirement from public life of Hon. Thomas B. Reed, speaker of the house of representatives. Mr. Reed has been one of the greatest—if not the greatest—parliamentary leaders the country has ever produced. Finding himself out of harmony with his party on the new issues that have presented themselves, he quietly resigned his seat in congress, and has entered upon the practice of law in New York City. He did it all with such dignity as to command the continued respect of those who differ from him. Intellectually he has but few peers in this nation and his tremendous personality was reinforced by an inflexible integrity. Happily the genius of American institutions is so sure that there is no such thing as the indispensable man. Mr. Reed's place has been ably filled by David B. Henderson.

son, the Iowa congressman, and the ship of state sails on undisturbed by the absence of one of its great and masterful captains.

Among the public men whom death has claimed were Vice President Garret A. Hobart, Gen. Lawton and the noted infidel, Robert Ingersoll, and Dwight L. Moody, the evangelist.

In other countries great events have taken place. Russia has entered upon a great industrial career and is vigorously pushing a railroad eastward across Siberia. Germany is interested in extending her trade and her colonial possessions, and is increasing the size of her navy. France chagrined and mortified all lovers of justice everywhere in its prosecution of Dreyfus, and is now busy getting ready for the world's exposition to be held in Paris next year. The most notable international event of the year was the peace conference held at the Hague. All the leading nations sent delegates to this meeting and peace was the popular cry of the hour. But as the Christmas bells have scarce ceased ringing the war clouds are dark and seem to be gathering in force. Every European nation is strengthening its military and naval armament and the British empire is assembling on South African soil the largest army of Englishmen ever sent to fight a foreign foe, while the plucky Boers are proving more than a match for the British forces. It seems a far away cry from the song of "Peace on earth, good will to men" of the angels at the birth of the Babe of Bethlehem, to the purposes and policies of Joseph Chamberlain, in what Prof. James Bryce calls "this unnecessary war."

The partition of China has not yet been made, as has been talked of by the great European powers, and the eastern question is one of the problems pressing for solution in the years to come. We have not noticed all that is worth noticing that has occurred during the year—the Roberts case, the great yacht race, the introduction of the automobile—these can only be mentioned, but the general trend of affairs in America has been of a helpful and encouraging nature, while the war cloud that has arisen in South Africa is a discouraging sign of the times. But the account must close. There is not time for regrets or further comment.

Welcome to 1900! You bring with you hope and opportunity. Your record is not yet made. What shall it be? God alone knows. As a nation the outlook is bright for business. There will be a presidential campaign but it does not promise to absorb public attention as it did in 1886. Then everybody had plenty of time to talk politics. Now they are too busy. The smoke nuisance was abated then. Now it is on again in full force. The factory chimneys belch forth clouds of smoke night and day.

The Paris exposition will, if peace prevails in Europe, prove a drawing to many from this land and others. The war in South Africa will continue to be the center of great interest, and the slaughter of the brave Boers fighting in the defense of their country and the brave Britains fighting by the order of their government will go on—how long?

But what 1900 will reveal when its record is made up little do we know. If we had to pen now what will be written only twelve months from now it would startle and surprise us. Happy it is for us that both the lights and shadows of the future are largely hidden from our view. Enough to know that while the years pass away and new ones take their place, and nations may rise and fall, and individuals may pass into the great beyond, although it may not seem so yet as sure as God rules in the affairs of men, just so surely are righteousness and justice winning their way to ultimate triumph.

Enough for us to act well our part, remembering that there lies the honor, and that if we do it the years will make note of it, humanity will be bettered and heaven's benedictions will rest upon us.

A fire in Japan is exciting. The Japanese seem to lose their heads completely in the presence of the fire demon. The people move from the houses where the fire breaks out into the next, then to another, and so on, until the fire is over, the united families moving from house to house with great nonchalance. A man dancing on his roof with a paper fire god is supposed to avert the danger, and no man is more surprised than he when, in spite of the fire god, the house ignites, and in a moment roof and man fall together. In three days the houses are rebuilt and all traces of fire removed.

A Delusion and a Snare. "Friends! I should say so. Never suspected that I had so many. Have to let them in one door and out the other. Best lot of fellows you ever saw. Give 'em a big stag party to-night."

Then the misguided youth sat down and drew a check against the generous legacy he had received within the month and resented an insinuation that his finish was visible.—Detroit Free Press.

A woman with pale ears can be safely set down as one whose heart is hard to reach, while she whose ears are pink along the curled rims and downy lobes is a creature of sympathetic and responsive temperament.

EVENTS OF THE PAST YEAR.

A Review of 1899 For History's Page.

WAR'S SAD DETAILS.

Battles In the Philippines and In Africa.

A LONG DEATH ROLL.

Destruction by Fire, Shipwreck, Accidents and Storms—A Notable Obituary List—Miscellaneous, Personal, Sporting and Political Items. A Summary of Important Occurrences Arranged Consecutively From January to December.

The chronicles of 1899, although comparatively free from startling records, nevertheless show the year to have been one which will be remembered in history. Our country's problems have been unusual. Cuba, under military rule, remained quiet, and considerable progress has been made in bringing social and commercial order out of chaos. Samoan troubles reached a crisis, and England has displayed an inclination to withdraw, leaving the field to the United States and Germany.

In the Philippines the policy of the United States to assert the rights ceded by Spain was resisted by a large clement in the island of Luzon especially, and a state of active warfare between American troops and the Filipinos, under Aguinaldo, extended from February until the early fall. No decisive battles were fought, but the Filipinos were routed at many important points. The United States forces in the island at the close of the year number 65,000 and the battle losses aggregate about 2,300 killed and wounded.

The treaty with Spain, ratified in 1899, marks a new era in the history of the United States republic. That and the outbreak of the South African war are the chief occurrences of the year in international affairs.

A universal peace congress held sessions at The Hague in May, June and July, but the deliberations bore no immediate fruit either in bringing about disarmament or establishing the principle of arbitration. The close of the year finds England at war in the Sudan and South Africa and on the defensive against continental aggression.

The Dreyfus trial was the sensation of the year. Santo Domingo's president, General Heureaux, was assassinated. Colombia and Venezuela have been disturbed by armed revolutions. The United States' standing army was increased to 100,000 men.

Noted minor occurrences of the year were the failure of the old publishing firm of Harper & Bros., the burning of the Windsor hotel in New York, with a heavy loss of life, and the deaths of many illustrious people.

In the political world death chose as shining marks Caprivi, the successor of Bismarck as chancellor of the German empire; Faure, president of France; Castelar, the foremost Republican of Spain; Vice President Hobart, and Grand Duke George, heir to the Russian throne.

Literature mourns the loss of Eckmann, the great novelist; Mrs. Southworth, Horatio G. Alger, the writer of boys' stories; Cherbuliez, French romancer and critic, and Busch, biographer of Bismarck. Art lost Rosa Bonheur, unrivaled in her sphere. Among editors who laid down the pen forever were Joseph Medill, founder of the Chicago Tribune, and Robert Bonner.

From other walks of life the grim reaper bore away Stephen J. Field, the noted jurist; Robert Ingersoll, General Guy V. Henry, hero of two wars; K. H. Appleton, the old time publisher; Emma Waller and Augustin Daly of the stage, Judge Henry Hilton, heir to A. T. Stewart's millions, and Cornelius Vanderbilt, head of the family fortunes and power.

The aggregate of casualties on sea and land and the losses by fire were not exceptional.

- JANUARY.
1. Political: End of Spanish sovereignty in Cuba; military command formally transferred to the American governor.
2. Spanish War: Treaty of peace delivered to the U. S. senate.
3. Obituary: M. Edouard Hervé, noted French writer and one of the immortals, in Paris; aged 65.
4. Minnie Alice French, well known actress, in New York city.
5. Mrs. Bloomfield Moore, a wealthy Philadelphian identified with the Keely motor, died in London.
6. Explosion: 9 men killed and 40 injured by the bursting of a boiler at Hewitt's shipyards in London.
7. Accident: 16 deaths in a collision at Dunellen, N. J., on the Lehigh Valley road.
8. Obituary: Dr. Horace Burr, historian and linguist, at Wilmington, Del.; aged 82.
9. Fire: At Memphis, Tenn., \$450,000, by the burning of the J. S. Menken Co.'s dry goods establishment.
10. Personal: Commissioner Gen. Egan attacked Gen. Miller in his testimony before the investigating committee.
11. Obituary: Nelson Dingley, Republican leader in the house, in Washington; aged 67.
12. Nubar Pasha, noted Egyptian statesman, died in Paris.
13. Shipwreck: British ship Adeline went down in port at Tacoma; 17 sailors drowned.
14. Obituary: George Gemunder of worldwide fame as a maker of violins, at Long Island City, N. Y.; aged 83.
15. Isaac Craig, local historian in western Pennsylvania, at Pittsburgh; aged 77.
16. Obituary: Hon. John Russell Young, journalist and diplomat, ex-minister to China, in Washington; aged 58.
17. W. K. Sullivan, well known western journalist, in Chicago; aged 56.
18. Obituary: R. W. Woodbury, framer of the first prohibitory liquor law enacted in Maine, at Bethel, Me.; aged 81.
19. Fire: At Wilkesbarre, Pa.; loss, \$250,000, by the burning of the Deberout building.
20. Obituary: Adolphe Philippe d'Ennery, noted playwright, in Paris; aged 88.
21. Obituary: Augustus H. Garland, ex-attorney general of the United States, in Washington; aged 66.
22. Personal: Adella Patti, the famous singer, married in London to Baron Cederstrom.
23. Obituary: Mrs. Gen. Robert Williams (formerly Mrs. Stephen A. Douglas), in Washington.
24. Obituary: Gen. George Sears Greengard, noted in the war with Mexico, in New York; aged 89.
25. Rev. Myron J. Butler, noted pastor in the west and a prominent Grand Army veteran, at Denver; aged 63.
26. Princess Louise, consort of Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, in the royal palace, Bulgaria; aged 29.
FEBRUARY.
1. Fire: In the business section of Columbus, O.; loss, \$750,000.
2. Obituary: Rev. Dr. C. S. Robinson, noted Presbyterian hymn writer, in New York city; aged 70.
3. Obituary: Col. James A. Sexton, commander in chief of the G. A. R., in Washington; aged 55.
4. Filipino War: The natives attacked the American position at Manila and were repulsed, with heavy loss.
5. Obituary: Prince Albert, only son of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and grandson of Queen Victoria; aged 25.
6. Personal: Capt. Robert Williams, ex-chancellor of the German empire, near Frankfurt; aged 68.
7. Miss Anna Dowell, known as the "Mother of the American Silk Industry," in Paterson, N. J.; aged 97.
8. Fire: The Manitoba hotel and other property burned in Winnipeg; loss, \$400,000.
9. Obituary: The Rt. Rev. John Williams, bishop of Connecticut and presiding bishop of the Protestant Episcopal church of America, at Middletown, Conn.; aged 81.
10. William Laird of the famous shipbuilding firm of Laird Bros., at Birkenhead.
11. The governor's mansion at Frankfurt, Ky., burned; loss, \$200,000.
12. Personal: Mrs. Kent & Co.'s crockery store destroyed; loss, \$200,000.
13. Filipino War: The American forces attacked and captured Calocan, near Manila.
14. Obituary: Gen. Edward Schriver, U. S. A., retired, in Washington; aged 87.
15. Accidents: At Cherokee Gulch, Colo., snow slides carried away the orehouses and killed 24 men. At Yankton, S. D., 17 lives were lost in the burning of a hospital.
16. Personal: Mrs. J. H. Jones, \$250,000.
17. Storm: Severe blizzards all over the United States. Heavy snow and wind along the Atlantic coast.
18. Obituary: Prince Napoleon Charles Bonaparte, grandson of both Lucien and Joseph, at Rome; aged 60.
19. Filipino War: Gen. Marcus P. Miller's forces captured Iloilo without suffering loss of life.
20. Fire: In Philadelphia several clothing houses burned; loss about \$400,000.
21. In Chicago the Trades' and Laborers' Co., and other concerns burned out; loss, \$750,000.
22. At Cincinnati hat factory and clothing house burned; loss, \$500,000.
23. Fire: At Akron, O., plant of the Thomas Building and Lumber Co. burned; loss \$200,000.
24. Brooklyn building No. 28, the largest in the navy yard, burned and the original model and patterns of the battleship Maine destroyed; loss, nearly \$2,000,000.
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Obituary: Frank Thomson, president of the Pennsylvania railroad, at Philadelphia; aged 59.

Cuba: Gomez issued a farewell manifesto to the Cuban people.

Obituary: Henry L. Clinton, noted criminal lawyer, in New York city; aged 80.

Obituary: American theater manager, in London; aged 61.

Obituary: Margaret Ann Cusack, the "Nun of Kenmare," in London; Gen. W. S. Walker, noted Mexican and Confederate veteran, at Atlanta.

Obituary: At Augusta, Ga.; loss, \$250,000.

Flood: High water mark reached in the Colorado river, Texas; 25 drowned.

Sporting: Jeffries defeated Fitzsimmons for the world's championship at Coney Island.

The yachts Columbia, built to defend the America's cup, launched at Bristol, R. I.

Obituary: Capt. Henry Nichol of the U. S. monitor Monadnock, at Manila.

Obituary: In the Armstrong-Whitworth Ordnance Co.'s works at Newcastle-on-Tyne; loss, \$1,000,000.

Sporting: Perth won the Grand Prix de Paris.

Filipino War: Hardest battle to date at Las Pinas between Gen. Lawton's division and the insurgents.

Obituary: The Rev. Dr. William Gordon Blackie, D. D., LL. D., noted Scotch theologian, at North Berwick, Scotland; aged 79.

Cyclone: In the northwestern states; hundreds killed and wounded at New Richmond, Wis., and Herman, Neb.

Duke of Abruzzi's north pole expedition sailed on the Stella Polare from Christiania, Norway.

General celebration of Flag day.

Obituary: Dr. Lawson Tait, pioneer in surgery, at London; aged 54.

Obituary: Prof. Locke Richardson, the American eulogist, in Berlin.

Rear Admiral Pierce Crosby, U. S. N., retired, in Washington; aged 78.

Congressman Richard Parks Bland, silver champion, at Lebanon, Mo.; aged 64.

Explosion: 11 miners killed at the Caledonia mine, North Sydney, C. B.

Criminal: George B. Brown, principal in the Marion Clark abduction case, sentenced to 14 years and 10 months, and Carrie Jones, the nurse, to 10 years.

Sporting: Imp won the Suburban at Sheepshead Bay.

Fire: At Greensboro, N. C., the Benbow house burned; loss, \$100,000.

Fire: At Kirkwood, Mo., Gen. John B. Gordon's home, the historic Sutherland, burned.

Obituary: John Godfrey Moore, prominent banker and exchange broker, in New York city; aged 82.

Henry B. Plant, founder of the Plant system, in New York city; aged 80.

Obituary: At Laurel, Del.; loss, \$200,000.

Obituary: Kapiolani, widow of King Kalakaua, at Honolulu; aged 65.

Shipwreck: Steamer Margaret Olwill, founder of Lorain, Lake Erie; 9 seamen lost.

Obituary: Daniel P. Tiernan, oldest of the surviving ex-mayors of New York city, at Audubon Park; aged 94.

Sporting: Harvard won three victories over Yale at New London.