

A VACANT CHAIR.

It Stands in the House of Representatives.

By a Vote of 268 to 50 the House decides that Brigham H. Roberts, of Utah, Shall Not be Admitted to Membership.

Washington, Jan. 26.—The case of Brigham H. Roberts, the Mormon representative-elect from Utah, which has occupied so much of the attention of the house since the assembling of congress, was decided Thursday by the adoption of a resolution to exclude him, by a vote of 268 to 50. The exact language of the resolution follows:

"That under the facts and circumstances of the case, Brigham H. Roberts, representative-elect from the state of Utah, ought not to have or hold a seat in the house of representatives, and that the seat to which he was elected is hereby declared vacant."

The amendment to expel Mr. Roberts without seating him, offered by Mr. Lacey, was ruled out on a point of order and the house only voted upon the resolutions of the majority and minority of the committee. The latter—to seat and then expel Mr. Roberts, was defeated 81 to 244. An analysis of this vote shows that 170 republicans, 72 democrats and 3 populists voted against it and 71 democrats, 6 republicans, 2 populists and 2 silver republicans for it.

The majority resolutions—to exclude Mr. Roberts and declare the seat vacant—were adopted, 268 to 50. The affirmative vote was divided as follows: Republicans 168, democrats 96, populists 4. The negative vote stood: Democrats 47, silver republicans 2, populists 1. There were over a score of speakers and the closing speeches on each side were particularly able. Mr. Lanham, of Texas, closed for the majority and Mr. De Armond, of Missouri, for the minority.

Mr. Roberts was present throughout the day and only left the hall after the result of the last vote had been announced. As he did so he gave out a statement justifying his retention of his plural wives on the ground that his moral obligation was more binding upon his conscience than technical obedience to statutory law, and saying that there was little excuse for the extraordinary efforts to crush a system already abandoned and practically dead. He said he was a martyr to a "spasm of prejudice." He would not, he said, attempt to run for congress again, although he would go back home with a light heart, confident of the future.

BLOWN TO PIECES.

A Runaway Train Dashes Into a Locomotive—Cars Loaded with Dynamite Explode, Killing Three Men—Seven Injured.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Jan. 26.—A frightful explosion of dynamite occurred in the yards of the Jersey Central railroad at Ashley, a suburb of this city, at 9 o'clock last night, killing Frank McLaughlin, of Mauch Chunk, aged 27; Michael Bird, of Ashley, aged 22, and William Buckley, of this city, aged 28, all brakemen, and fatally injuring two unknown men. Engineer John Rehrig, of Mauch Chunk, was badly injured. Engineer John Roughley, of Ashley, who ran a side engine, was severely scalded. William Brown, of Ashley, night boss at the round house; Brakeman Thomas Rowe, of Newtown, and Flagman Michael Coyle, of Ashley, were badly injured.

The accident was caused by the loss of the control of the heavy freight train, consisting of 24 cars, which was coming from Mauch Chunk to Ashley. The train was in charge of Engineer John Rehrig. At Laurel Run, while descending the steep grade down the mountain, control was lost and the heavy train went thundering down in the direction of Ashley at a tremendous rate of speed. It had been raining and the tracks were slippery.

At the foot of the mountain, just where the Ashley yards commence, the runaway train dashed into a helping engine standing in its path and it was sent flying along the track into a shifting engine. The shock exploded a car containing 30 boxes of dynamite, and the 18 cars in the train were wrecked. Everything that stood near was knocked to pieces. Ten locomotives were wrecked. The stacks of the roundhouse and a large portion of the roof were blown away.

An immense tank containing thousands of gallons of water was torn to pieces and several people who happened to be in the vicinity narrowly escaped drowning by the flood in which they were suddenly submerged. Nearly every window in the town was broken. The inhabitants were greatly alarmed by the noise of the explosion as well as by the shaking of their houses. Even in this city many of the strongest edifices felt the severity of the shock and trembled violently.

A Crash at Waycross.

Waycross, Ga., Jan. 26.—In a dense fog yesterday a special train of the Plant system having on board about 100 retail lumber dealers who were en route home from an excursion through south Georgia and Florida, and a freight train crashed together in the yards here. Mr. Davis, a hardware dealer of Wabash, Ind., was caught as two cars telescoped and both legs were crushed. They will probably be amputated. He may die. Mrs. Smith, who held a baby in her arms, suffered severe injuries. The child was unhurt. Thirteen other passengers were more or less seriously bruised.

Two Lives Lost in Fire.

Dunkirk, N. Y., Jan. 26.—Fire Thursday morning did \$200,000 damage at Fredonia, a village three miles south of Dunkirk. Besides the loss to buildings the power house of the Dunkirk & Fredonia Street Car Co. was destroyed, together with all the cars, and as a result traffic between the two places by cars has been suspended. Two lives were lost in the flames. Miss Alice Huntington was burned to death in the home of Fred W. Case while trying to save her personal effects. Warren Bretzkeg, a printer, lost his life in the Pan-American hotel.

A STORMY CONFERENCE.

Elmer Wrangle Between Miners and Operators at the Inter-state Meeting in Indianapolis.

Indianapolis, Jan. 25.—There was a two hours' session Wednesday afternoon of the joint conference between the delegates from the United Mine Workers of America and those from the Inter-state Operators' association and so much bad feeling was engendered that it was deemed advisable to adjourn until to-day to allow the feeling to subside.

The wrangle started when the credentials committee reported a division on the matter of admitting the delegates and operators from Iowa, which was decided by the chairman against the miners and continued until Chairman Bogle had called Delegate Ryan a liar.

Immediately upon calling the session to order Chairman Bogle asked for the report of the committee on credentials and Chairman Dilcher reported it had been decided that the states of Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Illinois were entitled to representation in the joint conference. When it came to considering the admission of Iowa there was a division, the operators opposing and the miners favoring it. The roll call resulted in a tie. The chairman then announced that he was entitled to cast the deciding vote and voted no, thus debarring the state.

In speaking on the motion to admit West Virginia, F. L. Robbins objected to bringing the state into the competitive field for the reason that at the Chicago conference two years ago an effort was made to get West Virginia in, and it was defeated because the state had not been organized. The miners had violated their promise to organize this state and, as a result, the operators there were not paying the scale. Under this consideration they were able to mine coal and put it on the market cheaper than could be done in the competitive field, where the scale was paid.

After the scale committees had been named a motion was made to allow the delegates not seated to have a seat in the conference, without a voice. This started the trouble. The motion was lost, the miners voting against it, giving as their reason that the delegates ought to be admitted to the full privilege or not at all. During the discussion, Secretary William D. Ryan said: "I do not propose to stand for the bulldozing tactics of this chairman and I do not think you will stand for it. He has shown himself to be two-faced. After saying he had our interests as much as the operators' to watch, he turns around and votes squarely against every proposition we advance."

Chairman Bogle replied by saying: "I feel very much hurt at the accusations made against me by the delegate, because I think there is no foundation for them."

He then reviewed the law on his ruling and, as he finished, walked to the front of the stage and, shaking his finger at Ryan, said: "I do not propose to be insulted by any man. I did not want the chairmanship of this conference and I do not want it now, and I say that the delegate who has accused me of being two-faced is a liar."

A tumultuous discussion of parliamentary rules followed and the motion to adjourn was with difficulty gotten before the house. Much feeling is shown on both sides. The operators clearly outgeneraled the miners in their efforts to get Iowa and West Virginia admitted and the miners have determined to not give up the fight.

OUTLINED A POLICY.

Democratic Senators Confer on a Plan of Action Regarding Questions Before Congress.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The democratic members of the senate held a conference Wednesday to consider the question of party policy on the various questions before congress. They have found themselves following somewhat divergent paths on some of these questions and concluded that their party interests demanded that they should have a better understanding among themselves. Hence the conference. No definite conclusion was reached.

The question of the policy to be pursued towards the Philippine archipelago attracted more attention than any other. On this point there was a general exchange of views, the consensus of opinion evidently favoring the policy outlined in Senator Bacon's resolution of protecting life and property in the islands until quiet is restored, when the United States shall provide the opportunity and prescribe the method for the "formation of a government by and of the people of the Philippine islands, to be independently exercised and controlled by themselves."

There was also more or less discussion of the bills providing a form of government for the Hawaiian islands and Porto Rico. The preponderance of opinion concerning these bills was favorable to absolute free trade between the United States and these islands as a part of this country.

With reference to the financial bill, it was practically decided to offer a substitute providing for the free coinage of silver. Senators Lindsay and Caffery were present and while they indicated their intention not to be bound by any decision upon this line, they recognized the futility of any effort to prevent its being pursued.

A Sword of Honor for Wainwright.

Washington, Jan. 25.—Commander Richard Wainwright, who was in charge of the Gloucester (the yacht Corsair converted into a cruiser) at the battle of Santiago, was presented a sword of honor and a silver service by the citizens of the District of Columbia in the Columbia theater yesterday. The presentation was made under the shadow of the stars and stripes twined with the pennant that flew from the masthead of the Gloucester on the day of the battle. President McKinley, Secretaries Hay and Gage and Gen. Miles were present.

A WORLD-WIDE WAR.

A Prominent Jap Gives Out an Interesting Story as to the Probability of a Mighty Conflict in the Near Future.

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 26.—K. Hirata, recently connected with the Japanese war department and now traveling to become acquainted with English-speaking countries, made some highly significant statements yesterday regarding the relations of Japan to current events. Mr. Hirata said: "The Japanese people are strongly in sympathy with Great Britain and the soldiers of Japan want to be sent to South Africa to fight for the British. Russia, France and Germany are at the back of the Boers and in a measure waging war against Great Britain through the Boers. What they are driving at is clear enough to well-informed Asiatics. It is to weaken the military power of the British in South Africa, that the strain shall compel Great Britain to neglect the defence of India and her interests in China."

"British defeat in South Africa means a Franco-Russian march through India. France and Russia are making every preparation for it."

"With her power strained in Africa and crippled in India, what can Great Britain do to oppose France, Russia and Germany in China. Nothing without Japan."

"Russia and France are the natural enemies of Japan. Our people will never forget the injury inflicted upon Japan at the close of the war between Japan and China until that shameful wrong is rectified, and it will never be rectified without war. In that war Great Britain's material interests are inextricably involved. When the time comes to strike a blow at Russia, Japan will be found ready and waiting. The hour seems near."

"The war in South Africa offers an opportunity to Japan to be of service to Great Britain by freeing her hands for more serious work elsewhere, which, willingly or otherwise, will soon be forced upon her. Japan, if Great Britain will accept her help, can send over 30,000 or 40,000 troops seasoned to mountain warfare, with whose assistance the struggle can be brought to a quick termination. Japan can land her troops in South Africa without aid and they will be found the right men to handle the Boers, establish British supremacy in Africa forever and leave Great Britain free for the struggle in India."

"Japan's military strength is sufficient to deal with Russia in China and permanently keep her in a position of inferiority and maintain Anglo-Japanese supremacy throughout China."

"All Japan asks of Great Britain as an ally in war against Russia is to employ part of her fleet in assisting the Japanese fleet to protect the ports of Japan against the fleets of Russia and France, and thus enable Japan's entire military strength to be used for the recovery of Port Arthur, the occupation of Manchuria and the overthrow of Russia's power in China. But the first thing to be done is to free the hands of Great Britain in Africa to take up her work in India."

ARMED INVADERS.

They Appear at Frankfort, Ky., Stack Arms in the Capitol and Depart at Night.

Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 26.—The arrival in Frankfort yesterday of from 800 to 1,000 men armed with rifles might have terrorized a community less inured to sensational happenings, but by nightfall the excitement caused by the appearance of the warlike visitors had subsided and the people were prepared for another turn in the events now making history at the state's capital. The train that bore the armed men was made up of 14 coaches. Apparently but few here knew that it was expected. The men left the coaches in front of the Louisville & Nashville station and, forming into companies, marched to the state house, where their arms were deposited and the men scattered about the buildings. Lunch was served to them at the rear of the state house.

Most of the visitors wore badges of white ribbon, adorned with a picture of Gov. Taylor. While it is generally believed that many of the men are soldiers, no person in authority will stand sponsor for the statement, while Gov. Taylor and Adj. Gen. Collier disclaim any connection with them. The men hail from various sections of the state.

The armed men of the mountains, on the advice of the republican authorities here, left Frankfort at 9 o'clock last night. The opinion here is that the visitors mistook the day on which the contest boards were to make their report.

The men were an hour getting aboard their train and amused themselves during the delay by discharging their guns. The people of the city gave them a wide berth. They are expected to return when the contest ends.

Tissue ballots and intimidation continue to be the burden of the evidence offered by contestants before the state boards hearing the gubernatorial contests.

A Bank Breaks.

Fort Plain, N. Y., Jan. 26.—The National Bank of Canajoharie failed to open for business yesterday. Adelbert G. Richmond, the president, died three months ago. Since then there has been much talk regarding the condition of the bank, resulting in grave suspicions and consequent light deposits and heavy withdrawals. Mr. Richmond had been heavily interested in the Clark Fabric Co. at Sidney, N. Y., now in the hands of a receiver and against which judgments amounting to \$250,000 were filed.

Raises an Interesting Question.

Boston, Jan. 26.—A suit has been entered in by the Amos Pearson Tobacco Co., of Lowell, Mass., against the United States, with a view of recovering duties paid upon tobacco imported from Porto Rico, and it raises the very interesting question whether Porto Rico is to be considered a part of the United States. The federal courts will in all probability be obliged to determine the issue. The Amos Pearson Tobacco Co. alleges that the duties imposed upon it were illegal, on the ground that Porto Rico is a part of the United States.

WAR IN AFRICA.

British Troops Drive Back Boer Forces.

Gen. Warren Occupies Positions Gained in Battle—Artillery of Two Armies Constantly Booming—Spionkop Is Captured—Other War News.

London, Jan. 22.—The Daily Telegraph has the following dispatch, dated Saturday, from Spearman's Camp: "Gen. Warren's forces have fought a successful battle. This important engagement occurred to the west of Spionkop, and practically resulted in our securing the rough table land which constituted the key of the Boer position."

"After a fierce cannonade had been directed against the enemy's lines for some time, the British troops assembled near an eminence known as Three Tree hill, which forms the center of a semicircle of crests, crowned with the enemy's works and some six miles long. Steadily and with great dash the British infantry went forward in the face of a heavy fusillade from Mauser rifles."

"Soon after midday the battle on the hill became furious and from 3 in the afternoon until 6 the fire from both cannon and rifles was extremely heavy. Point after point of the enemy's positions were seized by the British troops and eventually the Boer right broke and was forced back toward Spionkop. Our force is bivouacking upon the ground it captured so gallantly."

Spearman's Camp, Jan. 22.—After ten hours of continuous and terrible fire on Saturday Gens. Hart and Cleary advanced 1,000 yards. The Boers maintained an irregular fire during the night, but the British outposts did not reply.

Sunday morning at daybreak the Boers opened a stiff fire. The British stood to the guns where they had slept, and the engagement was renewed vigorously.

All day the roar of musketry fire continued. The British took three Boer positions on the mountain and found shelter behind the boulders.

The Daily Chronicle has received the following, dated January 22, 4:15 p. m., from Spearman's Camp:

"The Boers admit 21 casualties during Gen. Littleton's skirmish on Saturday. Gen. Warren continues pushing forward, though he is making very slow progress, as the Boers are numerous and strongly entrenched."

Durban, Natal, Jan. 23.—The statement comes from an excellent source in Pietermaritzburg that Lord Dundonald has entered Ladysmith with 1,600 men.

Kimberley (by heliograph), Jan. 17, via Modder River, Jan. 23.—"Native reports say that a proclamation has been issued at Barkley West by Commandant Bothof, ordering all British subjects to quit before January 22. Ladies are being subjected to great insults. The Boers are again very active, bombarding heavily from all positions from dawn till 8 a. m., the fire being directed chiefly against the redoubts."

London, Jan. 24.—The following dispatch from Gen. Buller, dated at Spearman's Camp Tuesday, 6:20 p. m., was posted at the war office last night:

"Warren holds the position he gained two days ago. In front of him, at about 1,400 yards, is the enemy's position, west of Spionkop. It is on higher ground than Warren's position, so it is impossible to see into it properly."

"It can be approached only over bare open slopes and the ridges held by Warren are so steep that guns cannot be placed on them. But we are shelling the enemy's position with howitzers and field artillery, placed on lower ground, behind infantry."

"The enemy is replying with artillery. In this duel the advantage rests with us, as we appear to be searching his trenches and his artillery fire is not causing us much loss."

London, Jan. 25.—The assemblage in Pall Mall outside the war office reluctantly dispersed at midnight, after the final word that nothing more would be announced.

The British loss to date in killed, wounded and captured, according to Gen. Buller's last list, total 8,216 men.

London, Jan. 26.—The war office yesterday issued the following dispatch from Spearman's Camp, dated January 25, 12:10, morning:

"Gen. Warren's troops last night occupied Spionkop and surprised the small garrison, who fled. It has been held by us all day, though we were heavily attacked, especially by a very annoying shell fire."

"I fear our casualties are considerable and I have to inform you, with regret, that Gen. Woodgate was dangerously wounded."

"Gen. Warren is of the opinion that he has rendered the enemy's position untenable. The men are splendid."

Buller's phrase, "The men are splendid," thrills England with pride and confidence. His taking and holding Spionkop are considered permanent advantages.

Sir Charles Warren's opinion that miles of the adjacent Boer entrenchments are untenable is accepted by most expert observers as obviously true, because of the height of the position, although some point out that it may lack adequate gun platforms to resist artillery fire from the two extended sides.

Advices have been received from Spearman's Camp that Gen. Woodgate has succumbed to the wounds he received in the attack upon Spionkop.

Was Murdered and Robbed.

Bridgeport, N. J., Jan. 23.—The body of George B. Tyre, the rich young man of Chester, Pa., who went on a shooting expedition in a skiff on the Delaware river, December 21, and never returned, was found floating in the river Sunday. He had been murdered and robbed. There was a gunshot wound back of the right ear, and the skull was crushed in. The feet were tied together with a stout cotton rope. Beside being wound and tied about the ankles, the rope had a large loop in it, as if it had been tied to a stone. The stone slipped from the noose and the body rose to the surface.

A SERIOUS CHECK.

Warren's Retreat from Spionkop Dazes Britons.

GEN. BULLER'S LOSSES.

His List of Killed and Wounded Aggregates 706 Men.

MORE TROOPS ARE NEEDED.

London Newspapers Agree in Saying that the British Military Force in South Africa Is Too Small—Methuen Praises Boers' Tactics.

London, Jan. 27.—Seven days of fighting have left the main Boer positions intact and Gen. Buller's army, 706 men weaker, according to the official casualty lists, which seemingly do not include the Spionkop losses, as those last forwarded do not mention Gen. Woodgate's wounding.

England is possessed by a depressing sense of failure, although not a word in criticism of her generals and soldiers is uttered. Not much effort is made to place a happy construction upon Gen. Buller's bare 18 words telling of the retirement from Spionkop, and there is an uneasy impression abroad that worse news is yet to come.

At one of the military clubs to-night the statement passed from one member to another that the war office had received an unpleasant supplementary dispatch from Gen. Buller which was being held up.

Facts from the neighborhood of the Tugela river are scantier than ever. The censorship is simply prohibitive, and something is wrong with the cables. The break on the east coast line has been repaired, but the cable between San Thome and Louisa, on the west coast, is now interrupted.

"More troops," is the only suggestion here as to the way to break the Boer resistance. The Spectator, dealing with the necessity of large additional military preparations, says: "It may be that we have yet another cycle of disasters in front of us."

The morning papers editorially advise coolness and judgment and a careful avoidance of overestimating the importance of the lost position. The Times says:

"The consequences of this latest check may be very serious to the gallant Ladysmith garrison. It is impossible to estimate the next movement. It may be that Gen. Buller will be compelled to retire from the ground he lately won, but in any event we may be sure that the British people will not show themselves wanting in fortitude and steadiness. The government would be well advised to call out immediately all the militia and to expedite the dispatch of the Eighth division and of the Fourth cavalry brigade. No doubt Lord Roberts will strain every nerve to enable Gen. Buller to renew the attempt to relieve Ladysmith."

The military critic of the Times, discussing various possible explanations, dwells strongly upon "the terrible drawback to British generals involved in the absence of maps of this tangled hill country."

The Standard, which thinks still more troops will be required, and which comments upon the "astonishing manner in which South Africa swallows up troops wholesale without any appreciable result," goes on to refer to the continental jubilation and to the predictions regarding Gen. Buller's check. It says:

"It is humiliating to find that the Natal map has been more accurately studied in Berlin than at our own headquarters on the Tugela."

The editorial then alludes to the significance of Dr. Leyd's doings in Paris, remarking:

"Dr. Leyd was a guest at President Loubet's banquet, on Thursday, where, in consequence, the British ambassador did not appear. M. Delcasse, the foreign minister, conversed some time with him. Our Paris correspondent, however, assures us that the French government is determined to preserve neutrality."

The position of the British armies in Cape Colony is virtually unchanged. Lord Methuen forwards by mail the first official recognition of Boer valor and military art. He calls their tactics and their courage "indisputable." In defending frontal attacks, Lord Methuen says:

"The mobility of the Boers is such that they can change front in 15 minutes, so that a flanking operation when striking home, simply meets a new front."

Killed at a Shooting Match.

Hamilton, O., Jan. 27.—During a shooting match at Darrtown yesterday John Kulp was killed by John Willoughby, of this city. Kulp was working the traps and looked over the boards. No blame attaches to Willoughby.

Bubonic Plague at Rosario.

Buenos Ayres, Jan. 27.—Official notification has been received of the appearance of the bubonic plague at Rosario, on the west bank of the Parana, about 230 miles by water north-west of Buenos Ayres.

Gave \$1,600,000 to Hospitals.

London, Jan. 27.—The late Prof. David Hughes, the electrician and inventor, who died on Tuesday, left numerous benevolent bequests. To each of four leading London hospitals he bequeathed £80,000. Prof. Hughes had an income of £40,000 a year.

An Escaped Convict Lynched.

Denver, Col., Jan. 27.—Reynolds, an escaped convict, was caught last night at Canon City and while being conveyed to the jail was taken from the officers and hanged to a telegraph pole just outside the penitentiary walls.

\$500 Reward

The above Reward will be paid for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the party or parties who placed iron and slabs on the track of the Emporium & Rich Valley R. R., near the east line of Franklin House's farm, on the evening of Nov. 21st, 1891.

HENRY AUCHU, President.

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