

ed in the street, on the spot where he had shot Von Ketteler. The execution took place in the presence of a great multitude. After the victim had been made to kneel in the street in position for beheading, he was kept half an hour in that position awaiting the arrival of German officers who wished to see the brutal spectacle that followed their appearance.

The only other news of the week from China relates to the "irrevocable conditions" of negotiation, proposed by the allied forces to China and printed at page 600 last week. It comes in a dispatch of the 30th from Peking, stating that on that day Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching, the Chinese commissioners, notified the Spanish minister, who is dean of the diplomatic corps at Peking, that the Chinese government had agreed to the conditions. But later reports indicate that this acceptance was coupled with a request that the allies particularize in respect of some of the conditions a little more definitely, a request that is suspected to have for its object a purpose to get the allies to wrangling among themselves.

Under an agreement with China, Russia has assumed a protectorate over the province of Manchuria. This is independently of the diplomatic maneuvers of the allies. Russia insists that the allies have no concern with Manchuria.

From the Philippines news is scanty. Gen. MacArthur, as governor general, celebrated the incoming of the new century with a somewhat pompous display. The president's commission has completed a tariff bill and sent it to Washington for approval. And there are brief stories of futile military activity.

The American casualties since July 1, 1898, inclusive of the current official reports given out in detail at Washington January 2, 1901, are as follows:

Deaths to May 16, 1900 (see page 91	1,847
Killed reported from May 16, 1900, to the date of the presidential election, November 6, 1900.....	100
Deaths from wounds, disease and accident, same period	468
Total deaths to presidential election	2,415

Killed reported since presidential election	17
Deaths from wounds, disease and accident, same period.....	103

Total deaths	2,535
Wounded since July 1, 1898.....	2,373

Total casualties since July, '98...	4,908
Total casualties to last week....	4,881
Total deaths to last week.....	2,508

The close of the last year of the outgoing century was not marked with even the mild business prosperity of which much was made at its beginning. On the contrary it left disturbing indications of a dismal business future. Dun's Review for the last week of the year showed a large increase of failures and liabilities over the opening of the previous year. The press dispatches of the 1st told of a reduction of wages in all the blast furnaces of the Mahoning and Shenango valleys. Those of the 29th reported a 7½ per cent. reduction in wages in the Quinsagmond works of the steel and wire trust at Worcester, Mass., the cut about equaling the increase in the same works made about a year ago. More destitution is reported in Cleveland by the clerk of the infirmary than has been observed there for years. From Baltimore there come reports of a financial flurry caused by the suspension of a savings institution, the Economy savings bank, and two banks, the American national and the Old Town. These were the first bank failures in Baltimore for 65 years. They were accompanied in the reports by news of the failure of C. R. Baird & Co., one of the heaviest iron dealers of Philadelphia, with liabilities mounting up to \$1,500,000 and assets aggregating \$100,000. Even more pronounced rumblings of ill-omen were felt across the Atlantic. The Deutsche Grunschild bank of Berlin suspended its interest payments on the 29th, but the most startling occurrence was the failure of the London and Globe finance corporation, of which Lord Dufferin was at the head. It suspended payment on the 29th, and the failure of 13 brokerage firms in London followed. The finance company had dealt heavily in West Australian mining shares, and owing to a fall in their value was unable to settle its clearing house balances. Its failure evoked from the Investors' Review (London) a confession that—

The symptoms are ominous in many directions. Trade is shrinking and be-

ginning there with the collapse of values, not only for the stock exchange, but for coal, iron and textiles. The effect must be to seriously impugn banking credit. The government is steadily pulling away our means and is still unable to cope with its liabilities. The burden of increased war taxation begins to press severely upon the community, whose incomes already have been curtailed by the derangement of business which the fighting has caused. The position looks decidedly dangerous.

The fighting referred to in the foregoing extract is that between Britons and Boers in South Africa. Conditions there, notwithstanding the supposed subjugation of the Boers months ago, are so bad that the Cape Town correspondent of the London Times says of them that "the aspect of affairs is scarcely less gloomy than at the beginning of 1900." Exactly how bad the conditions are cannot yet be told. The British censorship is strictly enforced, and the only news that reaches the outside world comes through Lord Kitchener's official dispatches. As these tell only of Boer success, with the exception of a few trifling affairs, the situation is probably worse rather than better than it appears to be. The Boer invasion of Cape Colony has penetrated farther south than any organized military body of Boers has heretofore advanced; and no success in driving it back has been reported. On the contrary, the Boers have managed to cut Kimberley off from communication. They break up into small bodies and carry on sporadic guerrilla warfare. To repel them the colonial government has called the loyalists of 27 Cape Colony districts to arms. It is believed that Gen. De Wet is trying to force his way down from Thabanchue to the Orange river, but of his whereabouts there really is no certainty. From the north of the Transvaal a Boer victory is reported by Lord Kitchener. It was won on the 31st at Helvetia, a few miles south of Lydenburg and 500 miles or more from the scene of the Cape Colony invasion. Helvetia was occupied by a British garrison, and was regarded by Lord Kitchener as one of his strongest posts; but the Boers under Gen. Botha captured it after a short battle in which the British lost in killed 15 and in wounded 22.

At last the full official returns from the presidential election are available. As given by the New York