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INTO AN OPEN SWITCH. Several Persons Injured—Man Previously Elected Vowed Vengeance. MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich., Jan. 7.—Car No. 7 of the Rapid Railway, Detroit & Mount Clemens line, ran into an open switch at a gravel pit four miles south of this city this evening. Several persons were badly injured. Among them were Mrs. Carrie Riley, of Detroit, badly hurt; Mrs. Ed Shaubman, broken arm and dislocated shoulder; Frank Newey, broken arm and dislocated shoulder. Several others were more or less injured.

Resolutions of National Dredge Men. CHICAGO, Jan. 7.—The national convention of steam shovel and dredge engineers and craftsmen ended today. Resolutions were adopted among congress to improve the waterways of the country; to take active measures toward the construction of the Nicaragua canal and favoring the government construction of a deep waterway from Chicago to the Gulf of Mexico, and the building of a channel from the Atlantic ocean to the Great Lakes. Charles Rice, of Chicago, was elected president. O. W. Vandergift, of Hamock, Mont., was made a member of the board of directors.

THE CAPTIVE'S STORY

Experiences of Lieutenant Gillmore With the Tagals.

FINALLY ABANDONED TO SAVAGES

How the Rescue Was Effected—Young Venulle Was Last Seen in Baler in June.

MANILA, Jan. 7, 8 P. M.—Lieutenant J. C. Gillmore, of the United States gunboat Yorktown, who was captured by the insurgent last April near Baler, on the coast of Luzon, and rescued a few days ago by Colonel Luther R. Hare, of the Thirty-third volunteer infantry, sat today in the apartment of his sister, Mrs. Major Price, at the Hotel Oriente, in Manila, and told a remarkable story of his eight months in captivity, ending with his dramatic deliverance from a death that seemed inevitable.

The steamer Venus came into the harbor last evening from Vigan, province of South Ilocos, with Lieutenant Gillmore and 19 other American prisoners, including seven of his sailors, from the Yorktown. Lieutenant Gillmore, after reporting, came ashore and hobbled along with the aid of a cane, to the Hotel Oriente, where American officers and ladies were waiting through the halls to the strains of "Agnaldo's March."

Although tanned and ruddy from exposure, he is weak and nervous, showing the results of long hardships. He speaks warmly of Aginaldo, and very bitterly against General Tinio, declaring that while in the former's jurisdiction he was treated splendidly, but that after he fell into Tinio's hands, he suffered everything.

Colonel Hare and Lieutenant-Colonel Howe, the latter of the Thirty-fourth volunteer infantry, rescued Gillmore's party on December 18, near the headwaters of the Abulit river, after they had been abandoned by the Filipinos and were expecting death from the savages who were around them. When the rescuing force reached them, they were nearly starved, but were building rafts in the hope of getting down the river to the coast.

Lieutenant Gillmore made the following statement to a correspondent of the Associated Press: "The Filipinos abandoned us on the night of December 18. We had reached the Abulit river, near its source that morning, and the Filipinos had abandoned us. We then went down the stream along a rough trail, guarded by a company of Filipinos. That night we were separated from this guard, and another company, armed with Mausers, was sent to look for us. I suspected something, and questioned the lieutenant in command. He said: 'I have orders from General Tinio to shoot you all, but my conscience forbids. I shall leave you here, and you must get out on your own.'

"I begged him for two rifles to protect us from savages, adding that I would give him letters to the Americans, who would pay him well and keep him from all hardships. He refused this, however, saying he would not dare to comply. Soon afterward he left with his company. "We had seen some savages in warpaint around us, and we prepared to fight them with our rifles. The only weapons they were available to us. The next morning we followed the trail of the Filipino soldiers, feeling that it was better to stick to them than be murdered by savages, but we could not get on very far. Then I ordered the men to build rafts, in the hope of floating down the river. It was a forlorn hope, but I knew the river must empty into the sea somewhere. I was so weak that I did not expect to get out, but I thought some of the men could.

"On the morning of December 18, while we were working on the rafts, the Americans came toward us, yelling. One of my men shouted: 'They are on us.' We were lashing a raft of bamboo. I, however, knew it was not the yell of savages, but the yell of Americans. The rescuing troops thought we had Filipino guards and called to us in English. They were so that they could shoot the Filipinos. That was the finest body of officers and men I ever saw."

Lieutenant Gillmore could not speak enthusiastically about the 140 picked men who had rescued him and his party. The command spent the day in making rafts. Colonel Hare thought Lieutenant Gillmore too weak to live through the trip, but he was not to be deterred. He shot many rapids, the men losing all their effects, and Lieutenant Gillmore some valuable papers. Only 14 out of 37 rafts survived the first night's experience, and 30 men were practically unable to walk when Vigan was reached. Describing the flight from Benguet, when the Americans approached, Lieutenant Gillmore said: "The Filipinos, completely terrified, left Benguet on December 7. They hurried the prisoners from town to town, often retracing the trail, not knowing where the Americans would attack. After being allowed without food for three days, they killed several horses, and we lived on horse flesh for several days. I did not have a full meal from December 7 until I reached Vigan. Indeed, the rescuing party lived largely upon rice without salt. There was one day when I was reduced to chewing grass and bark. "While we were in the hands of General Tinio's men he issued an order that any person aiding an American by food or money should be treated as a criminal. One citizen of Vigan, Senor Vera, was probably killed for befriending us. We would have starved but for the kindness of some of the residents of the towns and some of the Filipino colonists, but others treated us brutally. Wherever there was a prison we were kept there. Where there was no prison they would lodge us in a convent. We suffered greatly from want of exercise as well as from lack of food. For weeks Lieutenant Gillmore was covered with boils, and in great pain. When the Filipinos found the Americans were approaching, the treatment became better. There was no more shooting in the party and he painted advertisements on the rocks, throughout the retreat with other emblems, like a skull and the word, 'Vengeance,' by means of which the Americans were encouraged about the 140 picked men who had rescued him and his party.

"The Filipino treatment of the Spanish," said Lieutenant Gillmore, "was brutal in the extreme. The insurgents had old grudges to wipe out against them. Many talk about the reconcentrados in Cuba, but I have seen Spaniards dying at the rate of two or three per day of starvation in the hospitals at Vigan. I have seen Tagal officers strike Spaniards in the face with whips and revolvers. Lieutenant Gillmore declined to speak regarding political conditions, except to say that he thought the insurrection would last as long as there were any Tagals left. The members of the party reported to General Otis this morning. They were barefooted, sunburned and ragged. Some carried rifles, others pet monkeys. They

A CRITICAL MOMENT

Anxiety Regarding the Fate of Ladysmith.

FRESH DISASTERS OPEN WEEK

Eighth Infantry Division Going to South Africa, Leaving Militia at Gibraltar and Malta.

LONDON, Jan. 8, 4:50 A. M.—The British public is at last face to face with a critical moment in the campaign. It may safely be said that at no previous time have there been such anxious hours of suspense as will be passed through until the arrival of further news regarding the fate of Ladysmith. The week opens with only fresh additions to the disasters that have befallen British arms, and there is no longer any sustaining confidence, to buoy up public opinion, the editorials this morning fully reflect the extreme gravity of the situation, with a painful undercurrent of ominous foreboding, mainly caused by the fact that while the Boers have not only changed their tactics and assumed the offensive, General Buller is apparently unable to do more to assist General White than in making a demonstration. The Morning Post says: "He might as well have ordered a display of fireworks."

As the heliograph ceased working yesterday, the Boers are presumed to have captured the White's last message was sent by a pigeon or runner. Its purpose is serious enough.

The Times publishes a dispatch from Ladysmith, dated January 7, relating two night movements on the part of the Boers to assault the town. These had to be abandoned when the British defenses were reached. The correspondent says it was apparent that the Boer attack would not be long delayed. He adds: "Loyally supported by the civilians, the garrison can hold out for a considerable period. We are not reduced to half rations. The greatest difficulty is hospital accommodations for the wounded and sick."

Lieut. Col. Buller remains as to the meaning of the Boer attack. A dispatch from the Boer camp, at Colenso, dated Thursday last and sent by way of Lorenzo Marquez, mentions that a thunderstorm had turned the dry ravines into torrents and flooded the camp. Doubtless General Joubert felt sure he could secure a couple of days in which he could attack Ladysmith without fear of interference from General Buller, who, even if he decided to attempt to relieve the town, would probably occupy three days in reaching it by even a victorious advance. Apparently on Saturday General Buller was not ready to attack. The Boers, however, anticipated that General Buller would shortly deliver an attack, and in that case, General Buller may have actually opened battle yesterday.

General Buller has to face the terrible possibility that the next news will be the fall of Ladysmith. The disquieting feature is that the Boers seem to have sufficient force to deter General Buller from attacking Ladysmith, and to make strenuous efforts to reduce the town. In the presence of this ominous situation, even General French's disaster, of which apparently the worst has not yet been heard, assumes quite a minor importance in the eyes of the public.

The war office has already decided upon immediate steps for sending an eighth infantry division to South Africa. Some of the regiments for this division will be taken from Gibraltar and Malta. They will be replaced by militia.

It is asserted that the customs authorities at the river have detained two outgoing steamers and seized two large guns and six Maxims packed in piano cases, intended for the Transvaal. It is also said that a quantity of foodstuffs on another vessel has been seized.

PROGRAMME FOR CONGRESS

Senate Will Devote Week Largely to Speechmaking.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—The week in the senate necessarily will be given up largely to speechmaking. Beginning Monday morning, Senator Pettigrew's resolution asking for information concerning the Philippine war will come up, and probably other senators will speak upon it. This will occur during the morning hour. Senator Morgan has given notice of a speech on Monday, in which he will discuss the race question in the South. If any time is left that day it will be devoted to the continuation of the debate on the bill to amend the act of the senators on the opposition report. Mr. Aldrich, Tuesday Senator Beveridge will deliver his speech on the Philippine problem, and Wednesday will be devoted to "Memories of the late Vice-President Hobart."

The greater part of the remainder of the week will be devoted to the finances, the object of the managers of the financial bill being to give as much time as possible to this measure until it is acted upon. It is now understood that at least one of the senators opposed to the bill will talk upon it before the vote is taken, but there has not yet been any arrangement of the order in which they will address the senate.

Several Features for the House.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—There is no prospect of any important business for the week. The only certain feature is the consideration of the urgent deficiency appropriation bill. It will be ready Tuesday or Wednesday. It will contain about \$2,000,000 for the army and navy, and will pass when it reaches a vote, it may precipitate a stormy debate upon the conduct of the war in the Philippines. The answer of Secretary Gage to the huge resolution calling for information regarding the deposit of government funds in national banks is expected early in the week. The report will not constitute a priori, but will be opened up for debate, but if it is deemed satisfactory to any resolutions of investigation may follow. The Roberts case will not get before the house until the end of the week at the earliest, and probably not then. The hearings have been adjourned until Wednesday, and it is hardly likely that the report can be prepared in time for presentation this week.

New Transportation Company.

PLANT CITY, Fla., Jan. 7.—The United States & West Indies Railroad & Steamship Company, of Plant City, with a capital of \$1,000,000, has been incorporated. The purpose of the company is to construct and operate a railroad from Plant City to Charlotte harbor, with various spurs and branches, and to operate steamships between the United States and points in the West Indies.

Bombardment Was Heavy.

LONDON, Jan. 8.—A dispatch to the Daily Chronicle from Frere camp says: Saturday's bombardment of Ladysmith was the heaviest yet recorded. All the heavy guns were working, and the Boers seemed to be pouring in shells from every available lighter gun.

WILL FIGHT TO THE LAST.

If Britain Crashes Transvaal Armies, Still No Peace.

CHICAGO, Jan. 7.—Dan J. Wessels, a brother of General Cornelius Wessels, the commander of the Boer forces besieging Kimberley, and cousin of President Steyn, of the Orange Free State, said in an interview in Chicago today: "I expect to get back in time to have plenty of fighting. I am convinced that the war will last at least another year, and while the Boers will probably be crushed, provided there is no foreign intervention, there is certain to be a protracted period of guerrilla warfare, for the Boers will fight to the last."

"I think the present war might have been avoided, but for England's oppressive demands; yet it would have been merely a postponement of an inevitable conflict, for the Boers would have fought for the supremacy of South Africa. The leading men of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State have understood this for a long time, but hoped that somehow events would shape themselves so that the conflict would be postponed. The Jameson raid, however, proved it was near at hand, and they have been straining every nerve to prepare for it."

"One who has no personal knowledge of the fact cannot understand the bitter, undying hatred the Boers have for the English. After the Jameson raid, I met numbers of old men who prayed they might die until they had first killed an Englishman in battle, and the children have become imbued with the same sentiment."

Accident to Suffolk Regiment.

LONDON, Jan. 7.—The war office publishes the following dispatch from General Forester-Walker, commanding at Cape Town: "General French reports under date of January 6: 'The situation is much the same as yesterday, but I regret to report that a serious accident has happened to the first battalion of the Suffolk regiment. 'From news just come to hand from them I gather that with the authority and with the knowledge of General French the company of the first battalion advanced by night against a low hill one mile from their camp. They attacked at dawn. Lieutenant-Colonel Watson, commanding, gave orders to charge. He was at once wounded. Orders for retirement were given. 'Three-quarters of the force retreated to camp. The remainder held their ground until they were overpowered by great numbers, when they surrendered. Seventy were taken prisoner, including seven officers. 'General French reports that the Boer commando which made the attack January 4 lost 50 killed, besides wounded and prisoners. The commando was dispersed. 'Forester-Walker's Second Report. General Forester-Walker, telegraphing from Cape Town, says: 'There is no change in the situation as regards Lord Methuen and General Gatacre. 'Referring to my earlier dispatch today, I have now to report that General French reports under date of January 6 that a medical officer has been sent out to collect all the wounded to the northeast of Coloburg. The exact list of persons missing from the Boer camp is not yet ascertained, but about 70. The first battalion of the Essex regiment has been sent to replace the first battalion of the Suffolk. 'The position of affairs, tactical and strategic is without alteration. A Boer medical officer admits it was intended to leave Coloburg. The enemy's loss heavy by day from our fire has been heavy.'

Bombardment of Kuruman.

PRETORIA, Thursday, Jan. 4 (via Lorenzo Marquez).—Field Cornet Vesser, under date of Tuesday, January 2, reports as follows from Kuruman, British Bechuanaland: "I commenced a bombardment of Kuruman yesterday (Monday) aiming at the police barracks. The fight lasted until 6 in the evening, when the garrison surrendered, issuing the civilians to remain with their arms. We took 120 prisoners, including Captain Bates and Captain Dennison, Mr. Hiltyard, the magistrate, and eight other officers. We also captured a number of rifles and revolvers and a quantity of ammunition. 'Fifteen British were wounded. They are being attended to by us with the help of Dr. Beane, an English physician. The horses, oxen, mules and flour taken from the prisoners have been sent to Pretoria by way of Vryburg."

Complaints of the Boers.

LONDON, Jan. 8.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail, dated January 6, from Durban, says: "H. M. S. Widgouin brings from Delagoa Bay a number of Boer ambulances, men, who were captured at Dundee and subsequently released. They accuse the Boers of harshly treating prisoners taken from the British irregular corps. Several American citizens complain bitterly that their consul at Pretoria ignored their representations, although no charges had been preferred."

Amunition Started for the Front.

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 6.—An ammunition column started for the front today. Several colonial irregulars, of Dutch extraction, have been brought here under arms. The Cape Argus learns from Pretoria that 50 British subjects in Pretoria and Johannesburg have received their passports for abuses of privilege. The same paper is informed that several British subjects holding permits have been arrested at Zeerust.

TO CONSIDER ARID LANDS.

Shall General Government Undertake Reclamation or Cede to the States?

CHICAGO, Jan. 7.—Governor Murphy, of Arizona, arrived here tonight with a party including Senator Shoups, of Idaho; Senator Clark, Wyoming; Bluger Hermann, commissioner of the general land office, and George F. C. Alsworth, of the pension department, who have been on a trip through Arizona and New Mexico examining the arid lands. Governor Murphy said there was to be a conference of the governors of the arid states and territories at Salt Lake on January 11 to consider the question of arid lands. "There is every prospect that the conference will be representative of the states said, 'and we hope it will make some progress in this question. There probably will be present 11 or 12 governors. Two general propositions have been advanced for the disposition of these lands. One to have the general government undertake the work of reclamation by the building of reservoirs at the headwaters of the streams, and the other to have the government cede the lands to the states and territories for them to deal with the problem."

HARD FIGHTING NOW

Boers Between Ladysmith and General Buller.

BOMBARD THE TOWN FOUR HOURS

British Make a Heavy Attack on Colenso—Cheveley Camp in the Height of Activity.

LONDON, Jan. 8.—The Daily Mail has the following, dated January 6, at noon, from Frere camp: "At 3 o'clock this morning very heavy firing began at Ladysmith. It lasted fully four hours, and must have meant either a sortie by the Boers, or a determined attack on the garrison by the Boers. Our shells could be seen falling on Umboswhina hill and the enemy were replying. 'Besides the Boers, there were several sound indicators smaller pieces of artillery in action. The fighting 'must have been at closer range than has been the case up to now. 'Our heavy guns at Cheveley sent their usual fire into the Boer trenches, but there has been no further movement here. The Daily Telegraph has the following from Frere camp, dated Saturday, January 6, 10:30 A. M.: 'A very heavy bombardment went on at Ladysmith from daybreak until this morning. It is believed that an engagement was in progress, for musketry fire was also heard. It is possible the garrison was making a sortie, for the Boers at Colenso hurriedly left their trenches and rode toward Ladysmith. 'Our big naval gun at Cheveley camp fired several rounds at the enemy as they were leaving their Colenso lines. General Buller has ridden on to Cheveley with his staff. 'Boers Repulsed. A special dispatch from Frere camp, dated January 6, 7:30 P. M., says: 'General White telegraphs that he defeated the Boers this morning. They were soundly repulsed, and all the troops that the Gordon Highlanders and the Manchester actually repulsed them at the point of the bayonet.' CHEVELEY CAMP CALLED OUT. British Make Heavy Attack on Colenso in a Storm. FRERE CAMP, Saturday, Jan. 6.—At 1 o'clock this afternoon an alarm was sounded in Frere camp, and all the troops in the camp turned out promptly and advanced into the plain. The Attack on Colenso. LONDON, Jan. 7.—A special dispatch from Frere camp, dated Saturday, January 6, 7 P. M., says: 'At 3 o'clock this afternoon the whole of General Clery's division marched out of camp to attack Colenso. General Hilliard's brigade was on the left, and General Barton's on the right, with cavalry on the extreme right. 'The attack was slowly developed, and at 4:30 the British field guns advanced on the center and commenced shelling the Boer position on the flat land between Helwase hill and Fort Wyke. About this time a heavy thunderstorm raged over the entire position. 'At 5:30 our troops were still advancing and had reached a point very near Colenso. The naval 4½ field guns were busy dropping shells into the enemy's trenches along the river, and the forts of the enemy had no reply."

Advices From Buller. LONDON, Jan. 7.—General Buller has wired the war office the following, dated January 6, from Frere camp: 'The following message received from General White, at 1 P. M., today: 'Jan. 6, 11 A. M.—Attack continues and enemy has been reinforced from the south.' The following is from General White: 'Jan. 6, 12:45 P. M.—Have beaten enemy off at present, but they are still around me in great numbers, especially to the south, and I think renewed attack very probable. 'The sun has failed, and I cannot get further information from Ladysmith until tomorrow.' LONDON, Jan. 7.—General Buller sends the following from Frere camp, dated today: 'This is from White, dated Saturday, 3:15 P. M.: 'Attack renewed. Very hard pressed. 'I have absolutely no more news, and there is no hope between here and Colenso that White defeated the enemy at 5 this afternoon and took 600 prisoners. 'I sent all available troops yesterday to make demonstration at Colenso. The trenches there were all occupied by the enemy.' Situation in Ladysmith. LADYSMITH, Monday, Jan. 1.—(By runner to Frere Camp, Saturday, Jan. 6).—Large numbers of Boers, can be seen trekking toward Colenso. The Boers are actively patrolling the country, and have massed their forces to the southwest to oppose General Buller's advance. Every hill and kopje between here and Colenso has been strongly fortified. General Joubert is again in the field. It is difficult to estimate the number now about us, as the Boers keep well under cover and never show themselves, but a majority of their forces are between General Buller and Ladysmith. It is impossible to go outside the town limits without being shot at. A very heavy rifle fire was heard on December 30 in the direction of Sunday river. Persistent rumors are in circulation of quarrels between the Transvaal and Free State commanding officers. The active bombardment has little effect. Heavy rains washed out the camp of the Twenty-ninth Hussars, but the men and their horses escaped without injury. A big concert was held tonight. Everybody is apparently cheerful. British Retreated From Dordrecht. LORENZO MARQUEZ, Thursday, Jan. 4.—A dispatch from the Boer headquarters near Dordrecht says: 'The British have been compelled to retreat from Dordrecht. Fighting continued around Coloburg, where the British occupy some of the best bush kopjes. Bullets are dropping inside the town. British Warships Watching. BERLIN, Jan. 8.—A dispatch from Rome says the British warships Vulcan, Theta, Astra and Hobe have received orders to keep watch for a steamer which recently sailed from the Baltic for South Africa. It is believed she is carrying contraband of war. Earl of Ava Wounded. LONDON, Jan. 8.—According to a private telegram received in London, the Earl of Ava, the son of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, was dangerously wounded in the thigh during a recent assault on Ladysmith.

Only Venulle Unaccounted For.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—The navy department today received the following cablegrams: Manila, Jan. 6.—Secretary of Navy, Washington: Gillmore, Walton, Vandoli, Ellsworth, Bristol, Anderson, Peterson, Edwards arrived. Also Farney, Burke and Herbert of the Urdaneta. Only Venulle unaccounted for. Last seen at Baler, June 18, 1899. WATSON. Manila, Jan. 6.—Secretary of Navy: Washington: Brutus towing disabled transport, Victoria. WATSON. SCHWAN OCCUPIES NINAN. Rifles and Prisoners Captured—A Deserter Found Dead. MANILA, Jan. 8.—General Schwan's column, advancing to the south, occupied Ninan. One deserter of the States artillery, clothed in a major's uniform, was found among the insurgent dead at Novalea yesterday. A number of rifles were captured and several prisoners were taken. Johnson, a deserter of the Sixth United States artillery, clothed in a major's uniform, was found among the insurgent dead at Novalea yesterday. General Wheaton is moving toward Perez das Marinias today. THREE AMERICANS WERE KILLED. Serious Reconnoissances Out of Imus. MANILA, Jan. 7, 11:30 P. M.—Reconnoissances out of Imus, Cavite province, this morning resulted in the loss of three Americans killed and 20 wounded. The enemy loss is estimated at 60 killed and 80 wounded. Colonel Birkheimer, with a battalion of the Twenty-eighth volunteer infantry, advanced toward Novalea. Major Taggart, with the battalion of the same regiment, moved toward Perez das Marinias. A part of the Fourth Infantry was engaged south of Imus. PROGRAMME FOR CONGRESS. Senate Will Devote Week Largely to Speechmaking. WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—The week in the senate necessarily will be given up largely to speechmaking. Beginning Monday morning, Senator Pettigrew's resolution asking for information concerning the Philippine war will come up, and probably other senators will speak upon it. This will occur during the morning hour. Senator Morgan has given notice of a speech on Monday, in which he will discuss the race question in the South. If any time is left that day it will be devoted to the continuation of the debate on the bill to amend the act of the senators on the opposition report. Mr. Aldrich, Tuesday Senator Beveridge will deliver his speech on the Philippine problem, and Wednesday will be devoted to "Memories of the late Vice-President Hobart."