MASON STIRRED UP

British Vice-Consul's Criticism Resented.

ENGLAND'S WAR POLICY ATTACKED

Tillman Spoke on the Philippine Question, Answering the Arguments of Beveridge.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Senator Mason rose today soon after the senate convened to a question of privilege and sharply attacked the British government and the British vice-consul at New Orleans because of an interview in which the vice-consul had assailed Mason for the position he had taken in behalf of the Transvaal republic in its war with Great Britain. Mason attacked not only the consul, but the policy of Great Britain in levying war upon an inferior nation.

Hoar thought the consul's purported remarks so serious that it ought to be investigated by the government, but at the same time he deprecated any attack upon Great Britain, with the people of which the American people ought not only live in peace, but as loving and devoted friends. Lodge sharply arraigned the British consul for his utterances against a United States senator, and believed it ought not to be lightly passed.

Tillman delivered a forceful and quite characteristic speech on the Philippine question, in which he maintained that this government ought to extend to the Filipinos the right to govern themselves, the United States guarding them against the aggression of other nations.

The Proceedings.

After some routine business Pettigrew (rep. S. D.) presented a resolution calling on the president, if not incompatible with public interests, to inform the sente if the people of Samoa had been consulted with reference to the recent treaty regarding the Samoan islands. The resolution went over.

The senate then adopted an order, presented by Allison (rep. Ia.) deciding to proceed to the election of a secretary and sergeant-at-arms of the senate. This was the second step in the reorganization of the senate, which has been pending for several weeks. Allison then in succession presented resolutions—first, that Charles C. Bennett, of New York, be elected secretary of the senate, and second, that Daniel M. Ransdell, of Indiana, be elected sergeant-at-arms. After an agreement was reached that the officers were not to take their positions until February 1 the resolutions were adopted without division.

Mason (rep. Ill.) at the conclusion of the morning business rose to a question of personal privilege. He had read a newspaper clipping of an interview with the British consul at New Orleans saying that the British public was disgusted with the position taken by the American people and some of the senators in congress on the subject of the British-Transvaal war. That position was assumed, the consul was quoted as saying, simply because the American people were mercenary. Today they were favorable to the Boers because they had achieved a little success; tomorrow they would be just as favorable to the British when they had achieved victory. The consul also attacked Senator Mason specially. Mason said the consul's utterance was scarcely worth attention, except that he was one of the accredited representatives of a great nation to this country.

"It is not the first time," declared Mason, "that a British diplomat has attempted to run this country. So far as his personal attacks upon me are concerned, I have no concern. They do me honor. The more venomous the attacks by the British upon me and those who think like me, the more we are made the subjects of British stupidity and assinity, the sooner will the American people get on the right side of the controversy. Ninety-five per cent of the people of America are in sympathy with the Boers in their contest with Great Britain. I want to say I ask no special defense from the state department in this matter, for, with the help of God, I'l try to take care of myself.

"But there is one thing that I should like to inquire about. What has become of the arbitration treaty that was submitted to the senate? I am told the United States government cannot mediate in this war until that treaty has been ratified. If that is so, I want the treaty discovered and ratified, so that the barrier against mediation shall be removed."

Mason urged the committee on foreign relations, to which his resolution of sympathy with the Boers had been referred, to make a report on it in order that a vote might be had upon it.

"Don't take that child to the graveyard," urged Mason, "for I give you notice now that there will be a resurrection of it every day this week. You'll have a chance to think about it at least once a day unless you go to the cloakrooms while I discuss it."

Hoar (rep. Mass.) regarded the utterances of the British consul as very serious, an attack, in fact, upon the character of a United States senator and upon the American people. It seemed to him that inasmuch as the matter had been brought officialy to the attention of the senate it ought to be referred to the committee on foreign relations, so that committee might bring it to the attention of the president. He thought it might be proper ground for the revocation of the British consul's exequatur, and perhaps it might properly be made the subject of representations to the government of Great Britain. Continuing, Hoar expressed his regret that Mason had made his impassioned attack upon a friendly nation. It was quite natural that Mason's kindly sympathy should be strongly stirred, he said, by the brave Boers struggling against a great empire, but the senate is a part of the diplomatic power of this government, and if such utterances are made here he doubted the efficacy of any offers of mediation that might be made by the United States.

"It does not seem to me," said Hoar, "to be a logical position to assume. I have hoped that the time would come when either mediation between Great Britain and the Transvaal should be offered by the government, or that the position of the American people would be so clear as to bring about peace. I suppose the attitude of the people of the United States for those of Great Britain is one of almost attachment and love."

Hoar said that if Great Britain were wrong in the present contest she was regarded by patriotic Americans precisely as they would regard their own government if it were wrong. He did not believe, he said, in the doctrine, "My country, right or wrong," and did not think the people believed in it.

Lodge (rep. Mass.) in a brief speech also criticised the British consul's remarks as highly improper.

Mason replied briefly, but so vehemently, to the points made by Hoar that Platt (rep. N. Y.) said:

"I do not want to let this occasion pass without entering my protest against the abuse of free speech in the United States senate."

The matter was then again referred to the committee on foreign relations.

The resolution of Pettigrew (Sil. S. D.) declaring food products not to be contraband of war was referred to the committee on foreign relations after a brief speech by Pettigrew.

Carter (rep. Mont.) presented a conference report on the census administration bill, and it was agreed to.

A joint resolution granting permission for the erection in Washington, D. C., of a monument in honor of Samuel Hahnemann was passed.

In accordance with previous announcement Tillman (dem. S. C.) delivered an address upon the Philippine question. His discussion of the subject took a wide range. Referring to the speech of Beveridge (rep. Ind.), in which the Indiana senator charged that American opposition to the war in the Philippines was the chief factor in prolonging it, Tillman said:

"If senators on this floor and patriotic Americans throughout the country—thousands of them belonging to the party which elected McKinley president—have felt it their duty to protest against the inhuman and dishonorable conduct of our government—if they have believed that the Stars and Stripes were being disgraced and that the United States was waging a war of conquest upon a liberty-loving people, I ask that senator in God's name would he have us remain silent?

"I repel with scorn the charge, coming from any source whatever, that I am not as loyal to the flag as any man on this floor, and if it is sought to locate the responsibility for the blood that has been spilled, I am ready in this presence to speak what I believe and to declare the truth as I see it. I impugn no man's motives, but whether the president be most to blame or whether the crime rests on his dupes and subservient party, I say with all the emphasis of my nature that I and none of those who voted against the treaty are responsible for the spilling of one drop of this innocent blood that has been shed, and I will not endure patiently and without resentment any such accusation."

Tillman then discussed at length the race question as it relates to the Philippines, in the course of which he expressed strong dissent from the statement made recently by Senator Morgan that the civil war was precipitated by designing politicians who desired to thrust the negro with social and political equality upon the whites of the South. Regarding the assertions that the Filipinos were not capable of self-government, he asked if men fully armed and without artillery who could not be subdued by 60,000 American troops in a year were not capable of self-government, how dared the republican party give the control of the Southern states into the hands of negroes as being fit not only to govern themselves but also to govern white men? If the Filipinos are children, what were and are the slaves of the South? How dared republicans appeal to the Northern masses to compel the South to grant the negro a free vote and a fair count when it involved negro rule pure and simple?

"Were the fruits of the war mere apples of Sodom to be turned to ashes in such a brief span? Are the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments to be nullified in their very essence because they failed of their purpose in the South? Are they for home use only? Did this nation offer up its best and bravest upon the altar of liberty, the blood of 700,000 men, and spend and destroy five billions of treasure that we might have a 'government of the people and by the people,' to find that in the brief span of one man's life the sacrifice was vain, the civil war a mistake and that the colored race has no rights we are bound to respect at home or abroad?"

Tillman discussed at length the scheme of government proposed for the Philippines by Beveridge, saying in this connection that "the Indiana senator's heart was as hard as a flint and that he was without mercy and charity because he really proposed to govern the Filipinos with the bayonet. Such a policy would come back and curse us as surely as there is a God in heaven."

Tillman said there was no doubt that the United States could suppress and murder the Filipinos, but he protested against the continuance of this unholy war.

"The president," he said in conclusion, "has declared that upon congress rests the responsibility. He shirks the burden of his mistake and crime and endeavors to shift it to our shoulders. Let us give those people a government of their own, the only self-government, in whatever form they may select, and be rid of the burden as well as the shame which must be ours if we do not. Let us protect them against outside interference and in a small part compensate them for the wrongs we have done."

The senate then passed 23 pension bills and two other minor bills, and after a brief executive session at 5 P. M. adjourned.

ANTI-TRUST AMENDMENT.

Republicans in Congress May Execute a Flank Movement.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—A special to the Herald from Washington says:

Mr. Bryan and other democratic leaders are planning to make an anti-trust declaration one of the principal planks of their platform, but the republicans may execute a flank movement that will make the issue a very subordinate one, and will give their party whatever credit is to be gotten out of it. Some of the republican leaders have come to the conclusion that if congress should pass a resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution to give the United States government power over corporations, it would leave no chance for the intended democratic assault on trusts.

Should such a resolution be passed during the spring or early summer, it could not be acted upon by the various state legislatures before next winter, and the issue would be in the meantime in suspense with the credit for having taken the first step in the direction of effectual control of trusts resting with the republicans.

One step has already been taken in this direction by the introduction of a resolution by Representative Jenkins, of Wisconsin, chairman of the subcommittee of the house committee on judiciary, charged with the consideration of trust measures, and his action is, in a way, a reply to a challenge from the democratic members of the committee.

At a recent meeting of the committee Representative Terry, of Arkansas, wanted the republicans to take up some of the various anti-trust propositions that had been referred to the committee. They informed him they proposed to consider the subject and report a measure. A study of the various propositions then before the committee led Mr. Jenkins to the opinion that none was practicable or effective, and the result was the preparation of his resolution proposing a constitutional amendment. While the republican members of the committee declare they will report a measure of some kind, they do not propose to be hurried by the democrats, and they will not do anything until the report of the industrial commission has been received, that report being delayed by the difficulty of the commissioners in coming to an agreement and also by the fact that the testimony taken during the summer has not been fully indexed and digested.

Advocates of action along the lines of the Jenkins resolution figure out that it would put the republicans in an invincible position in the next campaign. They could point out the decisions of the supreme court of the United States as to the present limitations on the power of congress over corporations, and could show that they had taken the first step in the direction of removing those limitations and giving to congress absolute power. Republicans could also assert that the present anti-trust law is a republican measure, and that the only cases successfully prosecuted under it—the Chicago Traffic Association cases and the pipe trust case—were carried through by a republican attorney-general.

Roberts' Mileage.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—The house committee on mileage today discussed the claim of Brigham H. Roberts for mileage, which amounts to about $1000. A majority of the committee is of the opinion that he is not entitled to this money, as he was not sworn in as a member of the house. Roberts will be heard by the committee Thursday.

Stops the Cough and Works Off the Cold.

Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets cure a cold in one day. No cure no pay. Price 25c.

RECEIVED A BLACK EYE

WEATHER BUREAU BILL PROBABLY KILLED IN THE HOUSE.

Opposition to the Provision for Pensioning Disabled and Aged Employes—Gage Again Criticised.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—The bill for the reorganization and improvement of the weather bureau, which includes provision for pensioning disabled and aged employes of the service, received a black eye in the house. The bill was bitterly fought by the opponents of civil pension rolls on account of the life tenure provisions it contained, and it was sidetracked on a test vote of 57 to 53. Although the speaker ruled that it remained unfinished business when the house was again in committee of the whole, the opponents of the measure believe the action of the day kills it.

The early portion of the day was devoted to a lively scrimmage over the Sulzer resolution to investigate Secretary Gage, which the committee on rules recommended should be sent to the ways and means committee, as the latter committee has the response of the secretary in its possession. There was no opposition to the proposed action, but Richardson of Tennessee and Sulzer of New York used it for renewing their attacks upon the secretary. Gage was defended by Hopkins of Illinois, Hill of Connecticut and Dalzell of Pennsylvania.

A bill to require pilots and officers of steam vessels to make oath to their applications for license was passed.

The Proceedings.

Immediately after the reading of the journal, Dalzell (rep. Pa.), from the committee on rules, reported back the Sulzer resolution for the appointment of a committee to investigate the deposit of public funds by Secretary Gage in New York banks, and all transactions relating to the sale of the New York custom-house, with a recommendation that it be referred to the ways and means committee. Dalzell explained that the response of the secretary to the Sulzer resolution of inquiry on the same subject had gone to the ways and means committee, and it was proper that that committee should have jurisdiction. After a lively debate, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Richardson (dem. Tenn.), leader of the minority, said he was not opposed to the reference of the resolution to the ways and means committee, but he was decidedly of the opinion that an investigation should be made. He renewed his assertion, made in a previous debate, that the reason why the National City bank, of New York, had not completed its title to the custom-house property purchased from the government was that it had been the intention of the secretary of the treasury to relieve the bank of its tax obligations to the state and city of New York by retaining title in the government. The government had had to pay rent for the property, yet the bank was not to pay taxes upon it. "If that was the secretary's motive," said Richardson, emphatically, "I am here to condemn it and to insist that it ill becomes the secretary of the treasury to go into partnership with a private corporation."

The National City bank, of New York, Richardson said, had been able to earn interest upon the $3,315,000 it had nominally paid the government upon the bonds it had deposited to retain this money, and to charge the government rental equal to 4 per cent of the purchase price. In other words, he said, this juggling had enabled the bank to make $357,000 up to date. Richardson said he was surprised that the secretary of the treasury had already asked to be allowed to make an explanation.

Sulzer (dem. N. Y.), the author of the resolution, said that the people of the country were deeply interested in ascertaining the truth. He characterized the conduct of the secretary of the treasury as infamous, and his connection with the Rockefeller bank, which had been used, he said, to manipulate the stock market against adverse interests, as scandalous. "We demand this investigation," said he, "to ascertain who the stockholders and the directors of this bank are, that they are entitled to special privileges from this administration." Ever since the present secretary had been in office, Sulzer said, he had been aiding the National City bank at the expense of other national banks. He declared the people of the country recognized the secretary of the treasury was unfit and incompetent to hold the public purse strings. The United States treasury was made the instrument of the Standard Oil trust. Aye, more, he said, the people believed the secretary should be impeached.

Hopkins (rep. Ill.), in reply, said all this discussion was premature and out of place. "I simply rise," said he, "to protest against the unfounded, unwarranted and untrue charges made by the gentleman from Tennessee (Richardson). What right has he to impute false and fraudulent motives to the secretary of the treasury? Is there any evidence upon which to base them? None whatever. When the secretary was called on for the facts, he presented a full response."

"Why did the $50,000 remain unpaid?" interrupted Richardson.

"I'll come to that," replied Hopkins. Proceeding, he said Richardson had charged that the secretary had entered into a fraudulent contract. "I affirm," said he, "that there is no support whatever for the charge. The custom-house property was sold to the National City bank. It took possession and made a lease. I claim that the city and state of New York can proceed to the collection of taxes just as if the paper title had passed. The secretary of the treasury sold the property to the highest bidder. Was there anything wrong in depositing the purchase money with the bank? That bank is a government depository, selected by a democratic administration because of its financial standing, and a deposit in that bank was the same as if it had been in the subtreasury or in the treasury itself. I ask, then, in the name of decency and justice, where is the wrong done by the gentleman who presides with such dignity and ability over the treasury department?"

Hill (rep. Conn.) declared the resolution for an investigation was pure buncombe, intended for political purposes, just as a similar resolution directed against the democratic secretary of the treasury in the last administration was."

"I asked the gentleman from Illinois (Hopkins)," again interposed Richardson, "why $50,000 had been held back. He did not answer. I now propound the same interrogatory to you."

Hill replied that the law under which the property was sold compelled the payment of only $750,000 cash, the remainder from time to time. The secretary was compelled to receive any cash payment in excess of $750,000. He could not help himself. The gentleman from Tennessee (Richardson) made the specific chargo that it was done for the purpose of defrauding the city of New York of taxes. "It ill becomes him," said Hill, indignantly, "to charge the secretary of the treasury with fraudulent intent. Furthermore, had he gone further into the investigation, he would have ascertained that the city could not lose the taxes upon the property."

He proceeded to explain the tax laws of New York relative to national banks. "Therefore," he said, in conclusion, "the disreputable charge that the secretary of the treasury did anything with fraudulent intent falls to the ground." (Applause on the republican side.)

Richardson replied in a two-minute speech. Neither Hopkins nor Hill, he said, had made any answer to his question as to why the secretary of the treasury had not taken a paper credit for $3,265,000 instead of $3,215,000. He also questioned the right of the National City bank, with a capital of $7,000,000, to buy real estate to the amount of its capital.

In closing, Dalzell said so far as the right of the bank to purchase the property was concerned, its purchase had been authorized by the act that authorized the sale. The resolution was then adopted without division.

A bill was passed to appropriate $60,000 for a military hospital at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and also a bill to require officers and pilots of steam vessels to make oath to their applications for licenses and providing penalties for perjury. The bill developed considerable opposition from members having constituents engaged in small river traffic on the Ohio, Tennessee ad Mississippi rivers.

The house then considered the bill for the reorganization and improvement of the United States weather bureau, considerable opposition developing toward several features of the measure.

The house, at 3:35 P. M., was forced to adjourn, leaving it the unfinished business.

SECRETARY GAGE'S REPLY.

Information as to His Dealings With the National City Bank.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—The secretary of the treasury today transmitted to the senate his reply to the resolution of January 23, calling for further information as to his dealings with the National City bank, of New York. The secretary takes up the senate resolution of January 23 by paragraphs. His reply in brief is as follows:

"A careful search of the department files does not show any answer to the letter of A. B. Hepburn, written by him to me, dated June 25, 1897, nor do I believe that any answer was ever made to said letter. Neither do I recall any conversation had with A. B. Hepburn in reply to such letter. Nor was there at that time, or now, any agreement made or expectation of an agreement to be made by the secretary of the treasury or any of the officers of the treasury department with any person or persons with reference to the subject matter of said letter of A. B. Hepburn. The record transmitted with my communication of January 10, 1900, contains all there is or ever was, so far as I know, concerning the said letter of A. B. Hepburn.

"It does not appear from any record of the treasury department, nor is it within the recollection of the secretary of the treasury, that the department or any of its officers had any relations, either official or private, with the National City bank, of New York, within the period embraced between June 5, 1897, and October 27, 1897, so there are no letters, communications, agreements, papers and documents in the possession of the department which passed between the treasury department and the National City bank within that period."

The secretary calls attention to the necessity which arose late in October, 1897, of disposing in some way of the large sum of money ($58,448,223) which was realized from the settlement of the Pacific railway debt without withdrawing the money from active channels and thus precipitating a financial disturbance. He refers to his letter to A. B. Hepburn, printed in full in his first reply, in which he told Mr. Hepburn that H. W. Cannon, of the Chase National bank, had already been requested to "ascertain how many banks would qualify as depositories to receive a portion of the $30,000,000 of the railway fund which was to be disbursed in the redemption of government 6s about January 1. The secretary adds:

"The National City bank could readily qualify by the deposit of public bonds to receive a large amount. It was necessary that there should be in this instance an original recipient and distributer of the fund, because one check alone was drawn in the amount of $13,645,250. It ought to occur readily to the minds of the most inexperienced in banking affairs that it required an institution of some considerable magnitude to handle such a check."

The secretary believes he accomplished what he has taken pains to do since, namely, the avoidance of that sort of disturbance in the money market which affects not merely speculative affairs, but which experience has too often demonstrated spreads throughout the whole commercial and industrial fabric, bringing ruin and disaster such as close the doors of factories and mills, throw labor out of employment and invite years of business stagnation, the like of which was witnessed during the period of 1893 to 1897.

"There are no letters, communications, agreement papers or documents on file in the treasury department between the secretary of the treasury or his subordinate officers or officials and the officials of the National City bank, of New York, or the officials of the National City bank and the secretary of the treasury or his subordinates. It should be a sufficient answer to all that is requested on the subject of the conference between Mr. Stillman, Mr. Morgan and myself at Philadelphia to say that such a conference never took place."

With especial regard to that part of the inquiry which raises the question whether or not the secretary of the treasury knew or had reason to believe that the government funds deposited in the National City bank, of New York, were used with a view of causing a liquidation of speculative stocks, as mentioned in the letter of James Stillman, to the Hon. Lyman J. Gage, of April 8, 1899, etc., the secretary says:

"The two letters referred to in the inquiry are separated by a period of 16 months, but all the knowledge or belief the secretary of the treasury had as to the uses which deposits in the National City bank were to be put, at either period, or at any other period between December 21, 1897, and April 8, 1899, was obtained from these letters, which have already been submitted to the senate in answer to former inquiry.

"Beyond the information conveyed by these two letters, the secretary has no knowledge whatever. They were not supplemented by personal interviews or telephonic communications. The senate has already been furnished, as stated in my communication of January 10, 1900, with all correspondence, letters, telegrams, agreements, documents and papers in the possession of the treasury department with reference to deposits in the National City bank, of New York. No agreement, past, present or in contemplation has ever been had with the National City bank otherwise than is literally set forth in my communication to the president pro tempore of the senate of January 10, 1900. The records show that the treasurer has assigned and delivered upon the order of the National City bank, to 14 different parties, a total of $8,334,000, and of these $1,914,000 was transferred to the Standard Oil Company. The treasury department has at no time held any bonds in trust for the Standard Oil Company nor for any interest other than for the depositing bank."

Major Rockefeller Heard From.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—The following has been received at the war department from General Otis:

"Manila, Jan. 29.—Rescued Spanish major reported that he saw Major Rockefeller in Northern Luzon. He states that he saw him there a short time ago. No satisfactory conclusion can be reached."

Wire Trust Dividend.

CHICAGO, Jan. 29.—The directors of the American Steel & Wire Company today declared a dividend of 7 per cent on the common stock, payable in four quarterly payments, April 2, July 2, October 2, 1900, and January 2, 1901. The statement issued shows that the company made a net profit of $12,162,530 in 1899.

Rudolph Nunemacher.

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 29.—Rudolph Nunemacher, head of the real estate department of the Pabst Brewing Company, died today after an operation which he underwent for appendicitis.

The Phenomenal Success

Of G. H. Mumm's Extra Dry—109,303 cases imported in 1899, 72,495 cases more than any other brand—is due to its unsurpassed quality. The 1895 vintage now imported equals its best predecessors.

THE FIGHT ON SPIONKOP

WARREN'S MEN EXPOSED TO A TERRIBLE FIRE.

Held the Position Tenaciously for Twenty-four Hours, and Then Abandoned It by Night.

LONDON, Jan. 30.—A special dispatch from Frere camp, dated Friday, January 26, 9:10 P. M., says:

"I have just ridden in here, having left General Buller's forces in the new position, south of the Tugela, to which they retired in consequence of the reverse at Spionkop.

"The fighting, both before and after the occupation of the mountain, was of a desperate character. Spionkop is a precipitous mountain, overtopping the whole line of kopjes along the Upper Tugela. On the eastern side the mountain faces Mount Alice and Potgieter's drift, and standing at right angles to the Boer central position and Lyttleton's advanced position. The southern point descends in abrupt steps to the lower line of kopjes. On the western side, opposite the right outposts of Warren's force, it is inaccessibly steep until the point where the nek joins the kop to the main range. Then there is a gentle slope which allows easy access to the summit.

"The nek was strongly held by the Boers, who also occupied a heavy spur, parallel with the kopje, where the enemy was concealed in no fewer than 35 rifle pits, and was thus enabled to bring to bear upon our men a damaging cross-fire, the only possible point for a British attack being the southern side, with virtually sheer precipices on the left and right.

"A narrow foot-path, admitting men in single file only to the summit, opens into a perfectly flat table land, probably of 300 square yards' area, upon which the Boers had hastily commenced to make a transverse trench. Our men were able to occupy the further end of this table land, where the ridge descends to another flat, which was again succeeded by a round eminence held by the Boers in great strength.

"The ridge held by our men was faced by a number of strong little kopjes at all angles, whence the Boers sent a concentrated fire from the rifles, supported by a Maxim-Nordenfeldt, and a big long-range gun. What with the rifles, the machine gun and the big gun, the summit was converted into a perfect hell. The shells exploded continuously in our ranks, and the rifle fire, from an absolutely unseen enemy, was perfectly appalling.

"Reinforcements were hurried up by General Warren, but they had to cross a stretch of flat ground which was literally torn up by the flying lead of the enemy. The unfinished trench on the summit gave very questionable shelter, as the enemy's machine guns were so accurately trained upon the place that often 16 shells fell in the trench in a single minute! Mortal man could not permanently hold such a position. Our gallant fellows held it tenaciously for 24 hours, and then, taking advantage of the dark night, abandoned it to the enemy."

LONDON PRESS COMMENT.

The Government Is Advised to Sacrifice Ladysmith.

LONDON, Jan. 29.—There is comment in London on the discrepancy between the Boer account of the recapture of Spionkop and that sent by General Buller. The latter said not a word about the Boers scaling the hill and attacking the British trenches, and capturing 150 men who had hoisted the white flag, as at Majuba hill. Instead, he spoke of the maintenance of "the best traditions of the British army." There is not much doubt that the Boer account is correct. It is by no means boastful.

The London military critics have given up hope of saving Ladysmith, which is undoubtedly short of food and ammunition. The garrison went on short rations December 2. As it required a month for Buller to recover from his earlier defeat at Colenso, it is not thought he can pull his disheartened army together now in time to do anything for Ladysmith.

London waits anxiously for the Boers to move. They seem to be fighting on a very definite plan, and it is thought they may attack Buller or assault Ladysmith.

Parliament will meet tomorrow, and the radical and Irish members are preparing for a savage onslaught upon the government.

The St. James's Gazette this afternoon returned to scathing criticism of the language of General Buller's report. It says:

"General Buller's reflection on the terror he put into the foe reminds us of things we have heard about—Chinese mandarins."

The afternoon papers are discussing whence are to come troops for the protracted campaign. It is becoming generally recognized that some form of compulsory service is more imminent than previously thought of. The St. James's Gazette, however, suggests that the pouring of more and more troops into South Africa savors of the Spanish action in Cuba, adding that the solution of making better use of the thousands already there has never suggested itself.

As the afternoon newspapers commented without a full knowledge of the facts, they were not disposed to offer any apologies for Buller's defeat. The St. James's Gazette says:

"The meaning of the retreat is obvious. We have had to recognize that we cannot force our way through the enemy's lines to Ladysmith. Why, we do not know. If the Boer position is impregnable, it ought never to have been attacked. If it is capable of being taken, we were repulsed because the leadership was bad, and it is idle to attempt to conceal that the latter is far from incredible. To start out declaring there must be no turning back is eminently foolish. When swagger and rant prevail, there is commonly a plentiful lack of judgment and true resolution. It requires serious efforts not to yield to the gloomy conviction that the intellectual and moral qualities which make for success have been replaced on our staff by words, words, words. The remedy for South Africa is not to add to numbers, but to put the troops where they can come into play."

The Morning Leader says: "Will Ladysmith fall in consequence of Buller's retirement or in consequence of another night attack by the victorious Boers? The city has already held out its full time. Its last communication across the Tugela, otherwise than by electric or sun flashing, was on November 2 last. It was then believed to have enough provisions and ammunition for three months. The three months are up next Friday. There has been no chance during these months to throw into the city a pound of food or a pound of cordite."

Of the newspaper correspondents who voluntarily remained in Ladysmith, G. W. Stevens, of the London Daily Mail; Mitchell, of the London Standard, and Stabb, of the Times of India, died of fever in one week. Ferrand, of the Transvaal Leader, was killed in the Wagon Hill fight.

The London Daily Mail says: "The richest and what was hitherto considered the most powerful nation in the world stands today in the humiliating position of seeing its armies beaten back with heavy losses at the hands of two small states. Our ambassadors abroad suffer ignominy, knowing that Dr. Leyds has during the past week been received at semi-official entertainments, not only in Paris, but in Berlin.

"One would have thought Dr. Leyds' reception by foreign governments was already sufficiently suggestive. One would have thought the time had come when some attempt should be made to mobilize the fleet and the remaining land forces in order that the world may know that while bearing our suffering calmly we have no intention of subsiding into a second or a third-rate power by allowing foreign intervention of any kind."

The Post says: "Parliament will have to do something more than give expression to public opinion. The time will come when the nation must not merely arouse itself to fresh exertions, but must open its eyes to the facts and take into account the actual state of the world. The war cannot be conducted with reference to the state of public opinion in Great Britain, for the state of the armies engaged and the temper of other powers that are looking on are not less important elements in the problem."

The Westminster Gazette invites the country to cast aside all delusion and recognize the fact that progress for the present is stopped in Natal, and that safety lies in concentration. It says:

"General White's force as an effective arm must be written off, and probably most of General Buller's army has left the Tugela. The Boers have been given time to prepare against an advance through the Free State, and we have not sufficient strength at present to undertake this advance with any safety. These are ugly facts, but those who disguise them are again misleading the public. The plain truth is that we will have to make a new army somehow, from somewhere. We need at least 100,000 more men, 50,000 to reinforce the Cape and 50,000 in reserve."

The Globe says: "It would be a mistake to minimize the serious character of the situation in Natal. We have made a great effort, from which good results were expected, and have failed. The situation, as it stands today, points with greatly augmented force the same moral as did our previous mishaps. It is that the war must be pressed on with redoubled effort. Our resources are not exhausted, or rather it may be said we are just discovering how practically limitless they were. The country, we are sure, is in no mood for giving way to fears which are as groundless as they are unworthy. It has made up its mind to see this conflict through. Every check we receive in the field will only stiffen the determination of the people at home and in the colonies to achieve the end, at whatever cost."

The Pall Mall Gazette comments in much the same tone, and adds: "Even if Ladysmith falls, Spionkop is not Majuba, in the most vital sense. It will not end the war. There will be no more muddling compound of 'magnanimity and cowardice' this time. The war will end when General Roberts dictates the terms at Pretoria. To that end the empire's mind is made up."

The Evening Standard, commenting on the supposed natural advantages on the side of the Boers, says: "This country also had and has great advantages, but between the war office and the admiralty and the generals, they have been mostly nullified."

THE DEADLOCK IN NATAL.

Complete Failure of Buller's Plan of Campaign.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—The Herald's military expert, discussing the situation in South Africa, says:

"General Buller's flank movement to reach Ladysmith has come to naught. Repulsed in his first attempt to cross the Tugela by a frontal attack at Colenso, he has now been compelled to give up his attempt to pass around the left of the Boer line. His new repulse may have been equally disastrous in casualties, and certainly must be more damaging to his reputation for generalship, and will have a greater effect on the issue of the Natal campaign.

"After Sir George White had succeeded in beating off the determined attack of the Boers at Caesar's camp, the development of Buller's new plans became inevitable. His preparations had been deliberate, but nothing was allowed to become known as to his real intentions until a dispatch from the general himself announced that he had seized Potgieter's drift, on the Upper Tugela, and was getting his force across. Four or five days followed, in the course of which General Lyttleton placed his brigade on the north side of Potgieter's drift ready to attack a Boer position at Brakfontein, commanding the road to Dewdrop, while General Warren was preparing to throw his division against the extreme right of the long line of the Boers. Warren had crossed at Trichard's drift, some five or six miles to the west of Potgieter's. He had met with more opposition, but his cavalry, under Lord Dundonald, was apparentl able to reconnoiter for a considerable distance in the direction of Acton Homes, working round on Warren's far left.

"So deliberate was this whole movement of Buller's army, as if the general were intent on throwing away no chances or taking any risks, that the Boer generals had ample time to concentrate any number of their troops at any point they wished. General Joubert was at the front with Generals Botha and Cronje. Warren found himself at once confronted with an opposing army thrown right across his path. A long ridge ran four miles to the northwest of Trichard's drift, ascending from the river. The ridge runs into spurs of the mountains making the boundary of Natal and the Orange Free State. On the right of Warren, as he advanced, lay the mountain of Spionkop, facing the river, with precipitous sides, but more accessible from the north by a series of summits leading to its real head. The country on either side swarms with hills favorable for guerrilla warfare, and the Boer entrenchments extended along to Brakfontein and eastward to Colenso and the Tugela. Eight Boer camps were located by the British along this line of defense.

"The main position of the Boers, however, which has been the scene of the fighting of the past week, lay to the west of Spionkop, and it is clear that General Warren was unable to get sufficiently to his left to make a really flanking movement. There was nothing for it but to force his way through the barrier. So, having got up his artillery, he sent forward, under cover of his long-range fire, the brigades of Generals Hart and Clery. On Saturday, the 20th, an action began at 6 in the morning and continued until the evening. Ridge after ridge was captured, but the advance was slow, the Boers stubbornly contesting every foot of ground. Hart's troops wheeling round on the left along the rocky spur on to the semicircular position of the Boers, came under a heavy fire from three directions, but the British bivouacked on the ground they had won, though this was within the fire distance of the Boer lines. The loss so far had not been heavy, but only three miles of progress had been made and in front was an open glacis.

"There appeared to Warren but one chance for attacking this position, under the storm of bullets that the troops must pass through. If Spionkop could be taken, artillery from its dominant height could sweep the Boer entrenchments on either side. Last Monday and Tuesday the artillery duel went on unceasingly, but no impression was made. Under cover of nightfall, preparations were made for the ascent of Spionkop. To approach it there was a natural glacis three-quarters of a mile wide. Then 500 feet had to be climbed up a steep slope.

"For the present the deadlock to which the British relieving army in Natal is reduced is worse than ever. To imagine that Ladysmith can now await the issue of another movement that must take weeks to effect is an impossibility."

Dr. Pretorius' Request.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—A special to the World from Washington says:

The fear of offending Great Britain and provoking a protest would cause the administration to decline to comply with the request of Dr. Pretorius, of St. Louis, who, it is said, has forwarded to Secretary Hay money and a letter expressing sympathy with the Boers, which he asks to be sent to President Kruger through the American consul at Pretoria. It is indicated that the state department will take the ground that it would be a violation of the neutrality laws for this government to give financial aid to a belligerent.

It is pointed out that this request differs from the request made by the American consul at Pretoria in behalf of Great Britain to be permitted to forward money to be used by the British sick and wounded in the purchase of delicacies, in that the latter request is made by one belligerent of another, using a neutral as means of communication.

THE TORRES OUTRAGE.

Murder of American Miners Reported to State Department.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—The secretary of state is in receipt of a telegram from United States Consul Kendrick, at Juarez, Mexico, reporting that six Americans have been shot. Their names are: Dan Cusack, Jack Eldredge, George Lunt, Charles Burns, Lou Webster and Henry Williams. It is said that they were shot by order of General Torres, near Guaymas, on the ground that they were found with Yaqui Indians. The consul has not yet been able to confirm this report, but the secretary has suitably instructed our ambassador in relation to the alleged shooting, and has also instructed Consul Kendrick to ascertain and report to the ambassador all particulars.

Marauding Yaquis.

AUSTIN, Tex., Jan. 29.—A dispatch from Ortiz, state of Sonora, Mexico, says that a number of marauding bands of Yaqui Indians are committing depredations within a few miles of Guaymas, and that the people fear a concerted attack on the town by the rebels. The Indians attacked the San Jose ranch, within four miles of Guaymas, burned all the ranch buildings and drove off the livestock. Several other ranches have been attacked. The government troops commanded by General Torres have made no advance into the Yaqui country since their recent victory.

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