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ALL IS WELL AT LADYSMITH

Reports Up to Friday Show No Change in the Situation.

UNEASINESS FOR KIMBERLY

Believed That It Will Be Forced to Succumb—Boers Said to Seek Mediation by McKinley.

LONDON, Dec. 24, 4:45 a. m.—Beyond the statement that a telegraph message from Ladysmith reports "all well to Friday afternoon, with no fighting except outpost skirmishes" absolutely no news has been received from the seat of war during the night. From Continental Dutch sources, however, comes the incredible rumor that a British army corps has disembarked at Loosduin, Marquop, and is marching towards the Transvaal frontier.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The crossing grave view taken in some quarters of the present crisis is evidenced by a circular signed by Attorney General Wheeler, Solicitor General Proby and Adjutant General Wood to the forces today to the effect that the position of public affairs is so critical that the greater part of the regular forces will be required abroad and it becomes imperative for the purpose of home defense the home volunteers should be augmented, and urging that every member of the legal profession not deterred by age or parsimonious duty, enroll himself as an active member of the ranks of the court or other volunteer corps.

Copyright 1909 by Associated Press. LONDON, Dec. 23.—A burst of beef for the queen's Christmas will be cooked next Saturday, December 23, at the great kitchen fire, Windsor, in readiness for the royal dinner party on Monday. The great joint, when sold, will be garnished with the royal and imperial monogram in shrouded hose-tradish and, with a boar's head and game pie, will assist in adorning her majesty's side-board on Christmas day. This quaint announcement in the court circular, with the spirit of royal piety breathed in every line, sounds like a hollow mockery of the sorrow and shadow of death which have turned the season of rejoicing into one of mourning.

Had news from the Cape, writes one society authority, "has made London the dreariest city in the world at this season when it ought to be the most gay." Though this may be exaggerated there is certainly much truth in it.

The queen will spend Christmas at Osborne, owing to her wish to be nearer the cabinet, thereby sacrificing a habit very dear to her for years past. With her will be the Duchess of Albany and her children. The Prince of Wales will spend Christmas at Sandringham and the Duke and Duchess of York will also be there. But, neither at Windsor, at Sandringham, nor in the jobsist or lowest homes in Great Britain will there be much merry-making, for with 5,000 men killed, wounded or missing in South Africa, there are few families which have not been touched with this depression, which only serves to make the nation more determined than ever, and which is a silent accompaniment to one of the most spontaneous outbursts of patriotism and universal desire to risk the life and give up property that ever marked the history of any country.

Cook sons are no less anxious to serve their country on the battlefield than dukes sons or than the dukes themselves. The Duke of Marlborough's offer to equip 150 men of his yeomanry regiment for service in South Africa is merely one among hundreds of such offers from his class. Feers with vast business, property and political interests are exhibiting the utmost eagerness in their desire to have their names enrolled among the volunteers who are going to endeavor to retrieve the reverses to the British arms. The day of wild war enthusiasm and over-confidence has passed and these reigns in its stead a grim determination to atone for the mistakes of the past by individual effort, regardless of consequence.

An instance of the spirit which pervades the country is that in the Cumberland and Westmorland yeomanry of which the Earl of Lonsdale is colonel, every officer and nearly every man in the regiment has volunteered and is using every influence to get accepted. Among the officers is Captain Hugh Jefferson, well known in America, formerly manager of the Sand Creek Cattle company, of Wyoming. The Duke of Marlborough will probably receive an appointment on Lord Chesham's staff.

keen rivalry as to who shall do the most for his country in the hour of need. Northumbrians, headed by Earl Grey, have subscribed large sums to equip 100 men, and the Earl of Durham calls on the men of his county not to be outdone by the Northumbrians, and holds the list with a substantial subscription. Lords Stanley and Wolveton go as yeomanry troops, though the former, at one time, was an officer in the guards, and the latter is an admiral's son. Two nephews of General Lord Roberts, both ex-majors of the regular army, have volunteered to go in any capacity in the yeomanry. The Earl of Essex, who is a major in the Herefordshire yeomanry, accompanies the contingent of his county.

In short, the 3,000 mounted men who have responded to the call for yeomanry will have the brains, blood, muscle and dare-devilery of the famous American Rough Riders. By the death this week, of the Earl of Tankerville, Lord Bonnet, who married Miss Louisa Van Marter, of Tasmania, succeeds to the title. The new earl is a well-known evangelist. He met his wife at a revival meeting at Tasmania, in 1855. The late earl was the oldest member of the house of lords. His career was marked by many eccentricities.

The theater are feeling the effect of the absence of the war. The most popular attractions are suffering from it at the Shaftesbury, where "The Belle of New York" had come to be regarded as a permanent institution, notices are up that the company returns to New York forthwith. The sudden withdrawal of this production, however, is due, partly, to a row between the company and the managers over a play which was ultimately to succeed "The Belle of New York."

"The Black Tulip" has failed at the Haymarket, and Darric's new comedy not being ready, as a stop gap for the season an old comedy will be substituted.

Ada Fieban returns to the stage in the spring, opening at Manchester. After a long provincial tour she will appear in London.

LEYSDS ACTIVE

The Transvaal Agent Interviewing the Powers.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: "The Paris correspondent of the Mail says that Dr. Leyds visited on M. Del Cass, and asked his services in the cause of peace. The French minister, it is understood, gave an equivocal reply, asking, in fact, for time for consideration. A fact which may be safely inferred from the admirably reports of the movements of transports is that the battalions of the Fifth division as they arrive in South Africa are divided between Natal and the western border, some going to Durban and others to De Aar. This seems a clear indication that General Methuen will hold his ground at Modder river and not retreat to Orange river, as many timorous military writers for the press have been clamoring to have him do, leaving Kimberly to its fate.

The moral effect of such a retreat would be exceedingly bad, since it would be a confession of failure of one of the first objects of Buller's campaign with the army corps. "Military men assert now that if General Methuen's retirement had been contemplated, all the reinforcements arriving at Cape Town would have been hurried forward to Natal to complete the work of relieving Ladysmith, since they would not have been needed at De Aar or Belmont.

They also venture to assume that Modder river will be made a second base for ultimate operations across the country to Bloemfontein when the auxiliary transports with mule trains and carts have been organized.

AT BULLER'S OLD CAMP.

CHIVELY (Sunday).—The British army is occupying its original camping ground. The naval brigade fired a few shells at the Boer positions. The result is not known, but the firing is taken to show that the naval guns are able to command the Tugela bridge.

A DUKE DEAD.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The Duke of Westminster, who died of pneumonia last night, showed a keen interest in public affairs during his illness, and was saddened by the disasters to the army in South Africa.

GOMEZ WILL CO-OPERATE.

HAVANA, Dec. 23.—General Maximo Gomez has assured General Wood that he will co-operate with him in obtaining a successful administration and in preparing Cuba for independence.

AGUINALDO'S WIFE IS DEAD

Expires in a Village While Her Husband Continues His Flight.

NEWS OF CAPTIVE AMERICANS

The Pursuers Only One Day Behind Captors of Gilmore and Other Prisoners.

MANILA, Dec. 21.—Colonel Wilder telegraphs to Vigan from Bayombong that Aguinaldo has crossed the mountains near Bayombong, going southward. His wife died in a village in that vicinity.

AFTER AMERICAN PRISONERS.

Only One Day Behind the Insurgent Captives.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The war department today received the following dispatch from General O'Neil: "Manila.—General Young reports under date of the 21st inst. from Vigan, that Colonel Hare and Howse were heard through the mountains, of the insurgents' column having been captured, of which four have been captured, Captain Gilmore remaining a prisoner. The insurgents are one day in advance, and the pursuit is continued. These pursuing troops have encountered great hardships, but will probably strike Aparri.

Two hundred and one Spanish prisoners from Aparri were received this morning. There are 200 more in that section, mostly friars, awaiting transportation to Manila. The entire Sixteenth infantry leaves for Aparri tomorrow for stations from that point as far south as Bayombong. Batchelder's battalion of the Twenty-fourth is now on the lower Rio Grande in good condition to return to the San Jose country.

The Forty-fourth infantry is being sent to Hughes at Ilo Ilo, who reports Panay, Negros and the adjacent islands all quiet. The arriving troops and supplies are being unloaded through the service of the Manila and Dagupan railway with two trains daily. All parts of northern Luzon will be open January 1.

STORY OF THE COLUSA.

The Terrible Experience of the Captain and the Crew.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 23.—Captain Ewart, of the lost bark Colusa, who arrived with his wife and thirteen men of the ship, on the steamer Cottage City, from Alaska, this afternoon, tells the following story of their experience: "The Colusa left Kahului, October 21, for Esquimault, to be repaired. She was off Cape Flattery November 14, while a heavy southeast gale was raging, which continued until the 22nd. She labored heavily and by reason of the bulk of water in her big the ballast was turned to mud. The pumps were kept going continuously.

"By December 19 she had been driven towards the entrance of Sitka bay and an effort was made to work her into the bay. On the 12th the wind freshened and she was driven to sea again. The crew then demanded that we abandon the ship while near land. "Seeing no further hope of saving the vessel, the boats were put over and the ship left to her fate. Half an hour later we lost sight of her and believe that she foundered or capsized. Sitka was reached after four terrible days in the boat, during which time seven men were frozen, but there were no casualties." Captain Ewart and crew continued tonight on their journey to San Francisco.

ARMSTRONG FREE.

Washington Supreme Court Grants Chicago Fugitive Liberty.

OLYMPIA, Dec. 22.—The supreme court handed down a decision today in the case of William G. Armstrong, appellant against the sheriff of King county. The decision reverses the lower court and gives Armstrong his liberty on the ground that the crime for which Armstrong was sought to be extradited by the Illinois authorities was not stated in the complaint. Armstrong was formerly a bartender in the employ of Dan Coughlin at Chicago. Last summer Coughlin became involved in an alleged attempt to bribe the jury in behalf of a rich railway corporation. Armstrong stepped in for the purpose of assisting his employer to escape arrest and, it is alleged, attempted to buy off the prosecuting witness. Both men were arrested and bound over to the grand jury, which later indicted them,

BANK PRESIDENT UNDER ARREST

Accused of Misappropriating From the Globe National \$900,000.

DISCOVERED IN CALIFORNIA

Says He Has Done Nothing Criminal and Will Make No Attempt to Evade Arrest.

LOS ANGELES, Cal. Dec. 23.—Charles H. Cole, formerly president of the Globe National Bank, of Boston, is under federal surveillance at a hotel in this city. Cole is charged in a complaint mailed today by Boston authorities with the misappropriation and embezzlement of \$900,000 on four counts.

Yesterday United States District Attorney Flint received a letter from the United States district attorney of Boston, asking that Cole be taken into custody upon the charge of misappropriation of funds of the Globe National Bank, now in the hands of the receiver. Cole was found at Redondo and informed that the Boston authorities had requested his detention. Cole agreed to return to Los Angeles and disclaimed any intention or desire to escape. He stated that his family visited California for the benefit of Mrs. Cole's health. He assured the officers that he would make no endeavor to avoid service of the warrant.

Later Cole stated that during his long incumbency as president of the Globe National bank there had been over-loans, but these he had made good from his personal property. He intended to return in justice to himself to answer all charges and disprove or explain them.

SAN FRANCISCO PROTECTED.

Golden Gate Fortifications Nearly Completed.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23.—The fortifications at Fort Point, on the southern side of the Golden Gate, are rapidly nearing completion, and all of the lighter ordnance will be in position in the early part of January. This harbor will then become one of the most strongly protected ports in the country.

The smallpox which has existed for several weeks at the Presidio will be broken up tomorrow, as the men have all been pronounced well and able to go about their duties.

BROADWAY TRAGEDY.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Willis Clark, 42 years of age, variety actor, tried to kill his wife and little child and committed suicide on Broadway in front of the Fifth Avenue hotel today. He fired four shots, one at his little girl, two at his wife, missing them. He then placed the muzzle of the revolver in his mouth and fired. The street was crowded at the time.

Suggesting Christmas Gifts FOR BOYS.

This great store—large, airy and elegant—abounds with Holiday Novelties in Boys' and Young Men's Clothes. There is not a style in any article of Man's wear that is not shown here in miniature for Boys.

Suits Reefers Overcoats Hats and Caps **Underwear** Hosiery Shirts Sweaters **Neckwear** Gloves Leggins Fancy Vests

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