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NO CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Boer Guns Still Hammering Away at Ladysmith.

THE CENSORSHIP RELAXED

Dispatches Still Delayed, but Now Beginning to Arrive Much More Freely.

LONDON, Dec. 27, 4.50 a. m.—Dispatches from South Africa are still greatly delayed, but they are arriving more freely, which shows that the censorship has been relaxed.

There appears to be no great change in the situation. A dispatch from Ladysmith, dated Tuesday, December 27, gives the following from the Boer Lager dated Tuesday, December 19:

"The British naval guns at Colenso have been seen making the hollow bridge over Tugela river with a view of smashing it."

"The bombardment of Ladysmith is proceeding slowly. General Buller has arrived today."

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—A dispatch by the Tribune from London, says:

"Lord Alaric de la Murrighan has been his Christmas dinner, as quietly as an ordinary English householder. The war office has issued a serious of casualty lists from Cape Town, Middelburg, Phokuntshurgh and Ladysmith, but otherwise has not thrown any new light upon the military situation. The Ladysmith list shows that typhoid fever and dysentery are more effective than the Boer artillery in reducing the strength of the garrison day by day. The military staff seems to have adopted an unsatisfactory as well as an indefensible position at Ladysmith before the opening of the campaign, when a much stronger one for a camp might have been selected at Colenso or Estcourt, with a superior water supply. General Buller and his staff have been required to pay the penalties for the original blunders of the engineers who recommended Ladysmith and Estcourt as sites for British camps when the Tugela line was the natural line of defense at Middelburg. Concentration of their forces is now undertaken with great difficulty, as is evident from the reports of Buller's battle which are still coming in."

Ten days after Lord's artillery was lost it is clear that General Buller will refuse the attempt to relieve Ladysmith while Lord Roberts is on the sea. He is receiving reinforcements and fresh batteries and ought to be in a position to respect hostilities in a way of less days, unless he waits for the siege train. The movements of the battalions arriving at Cape Town are now concealed by the authorities, but General Buller is evidently making the fresh troops and replacing his lost artillery, while General Methuen is forced to stand by and watch the Boers while they extend their rifle trenches and strengthen their position in front of Middelburg. General Buller is justified in this course if Ladysmith, as is generally believed, is in a more critical condition than Kimberley. About 12,500 troops will arrive during the next eight days at Cape Town before Lord Roberts assumes command. With this body of reinforcements General Buller will not have the facilities for setting every column against the Boers, but he will at least have sufficient strength for manœuvring against Colenso and attempting to turn the enemy's position there. This is what military men in London are now expecting him to do within a fortnight. One reassuring sign is the publication of dispatches from Ladysmith, Estcourt and other points in Natal, which evidently have not been subjected to the military censor. This budget of correspondence deals in a critical spirit with the blunders made by the staff and the irritating fustian of the marionettes in repeatedly changing camp and exhausting the patience of the soldiers. The letters also contain evidence that the British field artillery is distinctly inferior not only to the Boer guns in range, but to the guns of almost every important European power. This campaign is bringing out many unpleasant revelations of which full political use will be made when the liberal opposition learns the true points of attack.

"Lord Methuen" I understand, intends to remain at Middelburg about three weeks longer.

"From Boer resources, hitherto singularly well informed, I learn that there are 8,000 European officers and men, skilled in modern military tactics, particularly artillery, now in Pretoria as a reserve."

NO REST FOR THE WEARY

Fitipino Rebels Kept in Hot Water in All Directions.

LAWTON'S FUNERAL FRIDAY

Remains Will Be Embarked On the Transport Thomas—Relief Fund Growing.

MANILA, Dec. 27, 9.45 a. m.—General Santa Ana, with a force of insurgents estimated at 200, attacked the garrison at Subig yesterday. The Filipinos were driven back, several being killed. There were no casualties on the American side.

MANILA, Dec. 26.—Colonel Franklin Bell, of the Thirty-sixth infantry, encountered the Filipinos Thursday, near Alaminos province of Zambales, and killed, wounded or captured 28 of them. The troops also obtained possession of a number of rifles and a quantity of ammunition. One American was wounded.

A detachment of the Thirty-fourth infantry encountered a band of the enemy Saturday at Arizao, province of New Vizcaya, and routed them, killing two and wounding or capturing 12. The Americans also seized a quantity of ammunition.

The Twenty-first regiment attacked the Filipino outposts Sunday near Calamba, scattering them and killing five of the enemy.

The Thirty-second regiment Sunday had a brush with the enemy from the mountains northwest of Dinalupjan. One American was wounded. The troops captured 125 head of cattle and brought them to Orani, Bataan province.

In the island of Panay, Captain Brownell's company of the Twenty-sixth infantry fought the enemy near Saia. The rebels lost heavily and the Americans captured a number of rifles. The rebels who fled from Panay to Romblon island are surrendering to an American garrison from Panay.

The funeral of General Lawton will take place December 28. The remains will be embarked on the transport Thomas.

CASE OF CLARK. The Wellcome Disbarment Will Not Figure.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—A special to the Herald from Washington, says: Members of the senate committee on privileges and elections declare that they will carry on the investigation of Senator Clark's case without regard to the decision of the Montana supreme court under which John B. Wellcome was disbarred from practice on charges of bribery in connection with Senator Clark's election.

"We sit as a court," said one of the members, "and we consider all the facts bearing upon these contest cases in a purely judicial manner. Even if the supreme court had declared that Clark himself was guilty of attempts to bribe, or whatever they charge him with, we could pay no attention to it. He was not a party to the case, and of course had no chance to present his side. We have nothing whatever to do with Mr. Wellcome. We will try the Clark case on its merits."

Former Judge Jesse Wilson, leading local counsel for those who are contesting Senator Clark's seat has indicated a desire to have summoned about 24 witnesses from Montana at a cost of about \$200 for each, irrespective of the time he has to remain here. No witnesses will be summoned until congress convenes.

HIS HAT A MEGAPHONE. Funny Colonel Talks of Fenians Invading Canada.

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—A movement looking to the invasion of Canada by Fenians and advanced Irish Nationalists has been agitated for some time by the leaders of these organizations in and around Boston. Colonel Roger F. Scannel, who has been identified with Irish agitations for many years, said today that there was to be a meeting of prominent Irish Nationalists in Philadelphia next Sunday or Monday to discuss the question of invading Canada.

"This meeting," Colonel Scannel said, "will be followed by another in Boston when reports from the Philadelphia meeting will be made by the Boston delegates."

Colonel Scannel says the present would be a good time for the invasion, as the troops of Canada are being sent away to take part in the African war.

"It has been agitated for years," continued the colonel, "that Canada should either be annexed to the United States or should have an independent government of her own."

"With an army of 100,000 Irish Na-

RAGING FLOOD IN NOOKSACK

One of Most Disastrous in History of Washington.

SEVEN BRIDGES SWEEP AWAY

Thousands of Dollars Damage Done to Farms and Buildings—No Sign of Subsidence.

SEATTLE, Dec. 25.—One of the most disastrous floods in the history of the state is raging along the Nooksack river in Whatcom county.

It is estimated that already \$20,000 worth of damage has been done to the farms and buildings in the flooded district and still the waters show no indication of subsiding. Five of the seven bridges over the river have been swept away, four of them being iron bridges.

As yet the river has not reached previous high water marks by five inches, but the destructiveness of the flood is accounted for in its suddenness.

PROFIT SHARING SCHEME. Great Northern Railway Employees to Become Stockholders.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—A special to the Record from St. Paul, Minn., says: Many employees of the Great Northern railroad, including conductors, engineers and other train men, will become stockholders in that system of railroads in February. The fact is not generally known, but it is understood that the management of the company has decided to recommend to the stockholders a plan for the distribution of a large block of the company's shares among the men who have been in the service of the company for a certain number of years. The sum will aggregate several hundred thousand dollars.

It is said that the plan will be to increase the company's stock, 10 per cent, and to allow the men to subscribe for a round amount at par. The announcement of the allotment will not be made until some time in February.

RECRUITING SUSPENDED. CINCINNATI, Dec. 26.—M. Pierre Petit, recruiting agent for the ambulance corps of the Boer army suspended operations temporarily today on account of the failure to receive an expected draft from Dr. Leyds. It is said that 300 recruits have been sent from this city.

MADAME BAZAINE ILL. CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 25.—Madame Bazaine is seriously ill at a hospital here. She was the wife of the famous Marshal Bazaine of France. Her sad case excites the sympathy of the highest society here where she has been in the past a leader.

STOCK PANICS. Caused by and Affects Speculation on Borrowed Money.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Mr. Roberts, director of the mint, was asked today as to whether the present monetary stringency in his opinion signified an actual scarcity of money to meet the present requirements of trade, he said:

"No possible supply of money can prevent the stock exchange panics or periods of monetary stringency, because speculation and rising prices will absorb any possible increase until the pressure for ready cash is just a great upon the new plans as it was upon the old. The real secret of these reactions is in the speculation on margins. Those people who are crying that they have been forced to throw away their property had never paid for their holdings. They borrowed money on call to make small payments, hoping that a slight rise in the market would give large profits."

BRYAN AGAIN EXPLAINING. He Does Not Intend to Abandon the Silver Question.

Austin, Texas, Dec. 26.—W. J. Bryan's dispatch from Washington stating that he had written Congressman Daly of New Jersey that he would make several speeches in the East, discussing trusts and imperialism and he was asked as to whether the report indicated his intention of abandoning the silver question. He replied:

"Congressman Daly has probably been misquoted. I expect to make several speeches in the East, but I expect to discuss the money question along with other questions. There are three questions now prominently before the people, to wit:

"The money question, the trust question and the Philippine question. Wherever I make a political speech I discuss all three questions.

Mrs. Bryan today received a letter from Andrew Carnegie stating that he would gladly furnish money for the erection of a library at Lincoln, Neb., which it is estimated will cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000.

ENGLISH HAVE THE RANGE. Reported Trouble Between the Two Boer Forces.

MODDER RIVER, Cape Colony, Dec. 26.—The British naval guns command the whole Boer position, and possess the exact range of every stone and bush. They frequently plant shells with good advantage in the midst of the Boer camps. The Burghers are reported to be returning home for Christmas.

Recent arrivals from Jacobdal report that notwithstanding the Boer success, the Free States do not expect ultimate victory. They complain of the overbearing conduct of General Cronje's men, who are alleged to be better fed and posted in the safest positions. The Transvaalers do not conceal their suspicions of possible defection of Free States and threaten to shoot them at the least sign of wavering. The Free States are said to regard subjection to the Transvaal as more to be feared than subjection to Great Britain.

SUGGESTING HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR BOYS.

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Corner Fourth and Morrison Sts., PORTLAND, OREGON.

METHUEN'S FORCE RESTING. Boers Have an Army of 8,000 Europeans in Reserve.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily News, telegraphing Wednesday, December 26 says:

"Lord Methuen" I understand, intends to remain at Middelburg about three weeks longer.

"From Boer resources, hitherto singularly well informed, I learn that there are 8,000 European officers and men, skilled in modern military tactics, particularly artillery, now in Pretoria as a reserve."

BRITISH ARMY SUPPLIES. Large Orders Have Been Placed in This Country.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—The employees of the clothing department of Armour & Co., at the stock yards, worked all Christmas day filling a rush order sent by the British government. For almost a week night and day shifts of men have been kept at work. Recently, it is said, two large orders came from the English government officials for coats for the army. The supplies are intended for the British in South Africa.

It is expected the order will be filled before the week is out. The supplies will be carried east in special trains and shipped at once to Cape Town.

MARTYR OR TRAITOR. An English General Suspected For His Good Sense and Good Advice.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—A dispatch to the Herald from London, says: It appears that a storm is brewing on the subject of the course of the government toward General Sir William Buller whose conduct at the outset of the war met with much criticism. It is said that General Buller, previous to the war, sent a series of dispatches warning the government against attacking the Boers, giving details of their condition for war which have been verified by recent events. But his dispatches were very distasteful to the government, and were put away out of sight and General Buller was harshly criticized.

General Buller, it seems, drew attention to the way in which the English were misled by the blindness of the intelligence department which from what has taken place, was totally unaware of, or purposely misrepresented by the Boers as to their arms and numerical strength.

It is well known that the British agents of the intelligence department were sent out from time to time to find out what the Boers were doing in the way of armament. The Boers knew all about it, but simulated naïveté and conducted the visitors round farms which they chose for their own purpose, where old guns were set up and shown with an affectation of pride by President Kruger's men, who were cunning enough to inspire strangers by their plausible.

Thus the British intelligence department received the most minute reports of the caliber, range and number of the cannon possessed by the Boers, but were merely misled by the wily linguists. The real guns with which the war is conducted, the Cronje's and Krupp's, were so carefully hidden that scarce a soul outside the immediate circle of the government knew of them.

The English government sent out guns equal in caliber to what the agents had been allowed to see.

In the same view it is thought that the Boers understood their numerical forces and small arms.

It is understood that all these things were told to the home government by General Buller with the result that Buller was called disloyal and pro-Ber and rabid papers demanded his degradation.

But since the war began people who know the contents of General Buller's dispatches have come forward and asked that they be published. The attention of members of parliament has been called to the matter and when the common assembly it will probably order the publication of the dispatches. If it be asked why General Buller did not speak out, it must be remembered that he is a military man in a high position and says: "My lips are sealed," but the subject is now occupying the club goospe.

One very clever club man remarked that the question really amounts to this:

"Is he a traitor or a martyr?"

Another said:

"This General Buller the Dreyfus of this war, and has he been snubbed by the queen?" for it will be remembered that when the queen visited Bristol he was withdrawn from the chief command of the western district and it was stated that he would have been hooded had he appeared. Has he been insulted by the press in the order to shield the war office, which believed the intelligence department rather than the chief of the South African forces? Some one else said:

Remember Lord Wolsey's speech "we have been grossly misinformed as to the strength and resources of the Boers." The public naturally asks "deceived by whom?"

HAS BETTER SENSE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The British ambassador, Lord Pauncefote, has made no protest to the authorities here relative to the reported organized movements in various parts of the country in behalf of the Boers, including an alleged Fenian movement, although these matters were subjects for discussion between Secretary Hay and the ambassador as late as this afternoon.