

BRITISH SOLDIERS KILLED

Boers Captured an Armored Railroad Train.

WAR HAS BEGUN IN EARNEST

Boer Commanders Suffered Several Reverses While Attacking Mafeking—Vryburg Is Threatened.

London, Oct. 16.—An Edinburgh paper, the Scotsman, asserts that a battle has taken place between General Buller and the Boers, and that the latter have entered Natal by way of Van Draken's Pass. General Buller, the Scotsman says, is very sanguine of the success of the British movement.

A dispatch to the Daily Telegraph from its correspondence at Ladysmith, dated at noon Friday, says:

"A strong mobile column under Sir Buller and General Buller, accompanied by General Buller, proceeded before daybreak this morning toward the Orange River for the purpose of reconnoitering. General Buller's object was to observe what was going on and also to test the mobility and efficiency of his forces. All the men are well and the weather is fine."

According to dispatches from Ladysmith to the Standard and the Daily Telegraph, dated Thursday, heavy rains have begun and forage is scarce in the veldt. General Buller has 12 regiments and the Boers 11.

The Daily Mail's Cape Town correspondent says:

"I learn on good authority that the Boers are attacking Mafeking. They are reported to have already suffered several reverses. It is generally admitted that Vryburg cannot stand a long Boer attack."

The war office has received the following dispatch from the general commanding the Cape forces:

Cape Town, Oct. 16.—An armored train from Mafeking escorted by two heavy-armed troops sent from here to Mafeking was attacked last night at Mafeking. Apparently a rail had been moved. The train left the track, and the Boers fired into it with artillery for an hour and captured it."

The Ladysmith correspondent of the Times says:

"A subsequent reconnoissance shows that the invading force from the Free State numbers approximately 12,000 men."

Glencoe, Oct. 16.—It is reported that the Boers have crossed the border of Orange, and that the Free State government has taken possession of the railway to Van Reenan, and seized a Natal government train.

Plan to Trap Aguinaldo.

New York, Oct. 16.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: While General Schwan is engaged in scattering the enemy in Cavite province, General Lawton and MacArthur are making preparations for an important movement to the north of Manila. General MacArthur and Lawton will proceed to the north in the hope of trapping Aguinaldo and his forces between the three columns.

General Schwan's movement to the northward of Manila is merely in the nature of a demonstration, and for the purpose of scattering insurgents who have entrenched themselves in Cavite province, the home of Aguinaldo and the nest of the rebellion.

Situation in Bechuanaland.

London, Oct. 16.—A notable change in the position of affairs is the presence of the Boers at Mafeking, 45 miles south of Mafeking, which seems to indicate that they are endeavoring to get Colonel Baden Powell between two columns. The gravity of the Boer advance can be better estimated when it is realized that they will thereby cut the railway and telegraphic communication to the north, isolating several British positions which must be speedily relieved.

Four Thousand Perished.

Amsterdam, Oct. 16.—A dispatch to the Handelsblad from Batavia, capital of Java, says a violent earthquake has visited the south side of the island of Ceylon, next to the largest of the Moluccas, between Booroo and Papua, completely destroying the town of Amboyna and killing instantly some 4,000 people, as well as injuring some 500 others. The dispatch says details of the disaster have not yet been obtained.

Wireless Telegraph in Hawaii.

San Francisco, Oct. 12.—The steamer Australia arrived from Honolulu today. Among her passengers was Frederick J. Cruise, who visits this country to confer with Marconi, the inventor of wireless telegraphy, regarding a system of wireless telegraphy which is to be placed in operation among the islands of the Hawaiian group.

Canada's Contribution.

Ottawa, Ont., Oct. 16.—At a meeting of the cabinet today, a decision was reached to send 1,000 Canadian soldiers to South Africa as Canada's contribution to the British force now fighting the Boers. This is double the number of troops asked for by the imperial government.

DOWN IN CAVITE.

General Schwan's Expedition Accomplishes Its Object.

Manila, Oct. 16.—General Schwan's expedition, having accomplished its object, the troops are all returning to their former positions, abandoning the towns taken.

General Schwan is en route from Porez Desmarinas to Inna with the infantry, while the artillery and cavalry and all mule teams are retracing their route from Malabon to Bacoor, with the signal corps removing the wires. General Trias, with the organized bodies of insurgents, retreated to Silang and Indan, at the base of the mountain.

In Cavite province, the scene of the hottest fights and their great successes over the Spaniards, the Filipinos might have been expected to make a resolute stand, if anywhere, but after their whippings at Cavite Viejo and Novleta, their tactics consisted chiefly in a continuous exhibition of their agility and their transformation from warriors to amigos.

The marines, while reconnoitering about the scene of Sunday's encounter, find that the trenches have been already reoccupied, although the enemy manifested more than their usual willingness to retreat before the Americans.

At Malabon, the Americans corralled 200 or 300 natives, supposed to be fighting men. A few of them were caught with arms in their hands, but large numbers were found in hiding, dressed in khaki, like the American uniform. A majority of them were in the garb of amigos, but they are suspected of shooting at the troops from houses, a growing habit, which flourished throughout the advance whenever small parties of Americans strayed from the main body. The prisoners are a white elephant on the hands of the Americans.

SHOT HIS RECREANT WIFE.

Bullet Intended for the Man Who Was in the Room With Her.

Oregon City, Or., Oct. 16.—A. Brooks, of Canemah, who is employed in the paper mills, returned home unexpectedly between 11 and 12 o'clock last night and found Frank Freeman and Mrs. Brooks together in the house. He shot at Freeman with his revolver, but missed the mark and one of the bullets entered Mrs. Brooks' abdomen, perforating the intestines and lodging against the hip bone. Dr. Carl extracted the bullet, but says the woman cannot live. Freeman was arrested this afternoon, charged with assault upon the woman, and was bound over to the circuit court.

Brooks says he found Mrs. Brooks' younger sister in the front room with Pat Freeman, and in the rear room found his wife and Frank Freeman. He fired four shots, two hitting the body of Mrs. Brooks. He further says he has been carrying a pistol for a month, expecting to return home at midnight and find Freeman with his wife, but he did not muster enough courage to return until last night.

Freeman's father and two brothers were drowned nearly two years ago by accidentally going over the falls in a row boat. The Brookses have only resided here a short time.

LED INTO AMBUSH.

German Expedition Massacred by Natives in Southwest Africa.

Liverpool, Oct. 16.—The steamer Niger, which arrived today from Southwest Africa, brings news of the massacre of Lieutenant Guise, German commissioner, at Rio del Rey, near Old Calabar river, on the bight of Biafra, and also of Herr Leemeyer, a German trader, together with 100 native soldiers and carriers, constituting an expedition formed by Lieutenant Guise to quell disturbances near the Cross river, which forms the boundary between British and German territory. A native chief was taken as a guide, but he led the expedition into ambush. He was promptly shot when the Germans received a volley. They fought courageously, but were outnumbered and slain. The natives then looted the neighboring factories and murdered the native employes, after which they crossed into British territory. Two British traders, who were warned, had a narrow escape, managing to get down the river in a canoe and to reach Rio del Rey, where they found only a solitary German official and a half dozen black soldiers.

Great excitement prevailed at Rio del Rey when the Niger left, September 27, as it was thought the natives might come there. News has been sent to the Cameroons, from which point a German relief expedition could be dispatched.

CONOMAGH ARRIVES.

San Francisco, Oct. 14.—The transport Conomagh arrived here today, 33 days from Manila. Fifty-seven soldiers who deserted from the Newport came home on the Conomagh. Among them were 15 men of the Fourteenth infantry, 7 of the Third artillery, 13 of the Fourth cavalry, 2 of the Twenty-second infantry, and 1 each of the Thirteenth, Twentieth and Sixteenth infantry.

CIVIL RULE FOR FRENCH COLONIES.

Chicago, Oct. 16.—A special to the Chicago Tribune from Paris says: The cabinet today voted to place all French colonies under civil authority and to abolish all military administration.

ALASKA WANTS RECOGNITION.

First Territorial Convention In Session In Juneau.

Seattle, Oct. 16.—A special to the Post-Intelligencer from Juneau, Alaska, dated October 12, says:

Alaska's first territorial convention, attended by delegates from every section of the territory, was called to order in the opera house today, and will spend two weeks in preparing for presentation to the next congress Alaska's needs in the way of legislation. Ex-Governor A. P. Swineford was elected permanent chairman, and Hal Hoffman, of Juneau, secretary. Resolutions presented by Judge A. K. Delaney, of Juneau, were adopted, expressing the uncompromising opposition to Great Britain in any manner of any territory acquired by the United States from Russia and, calling upon President McKinley and the authorities at Washington firmly and steadfastly to resist all attempts, however insidious, of any foreign power for the dimemberment of Alaska. A copy of the resolutions was forwarded to President McKinley.

At today's session a letter was read from Senator Addison G. Foster, of Washington, written subsequent to his visit to this territory last summer, which was received with manifestations of approval, and entered in full upon the minutes. Standing committees on all important branches of the convention's proposed work were appointed. They will do most of the work in committee room.

The largest delegations are from Douglas, Skagway and Juneau.

LIVELY IN VENEZUELA.

Foreigners Fly Their Flags for Protection—American Sailors Ashore.

New York, Oct. 18.—The Dutch steamer Prins Fredrik Hendrik arrived today from Venezuela. The second coffin of the steamer said concerning the revolution:

"At La Guayra Laya, a man-of-war was lately brought from Italy. She was flying the Venezuelan flag and was ready for action. There was no talk at La Guayra, where the Prins Fredrik Hendrik touched on September 23, of President Andrade leaving the country.

"At Puerto Cabello, when the Prins Fredrik Hendrik arrived on September 30, the streets were barricaded, the windows of the houses were barricaded with bales of merchandise, foreign residents were flying their flags from housetops and scattering shots were heard at night. General Castro was near Caracas with 6,000 rebels, it was said.

"The American warship Vixen and two French men-of-war lay at Caracas. The American sailors had not been ashore for seven and a half months. They were so wild that they mixed it up with every one they met. The Yankees cleared out one entire street, known as Murder street, and 40 of them were sent to the hospital."

SLIPPED IN THE BUD.

Manila, Oct. 18.—The authorities were informed yesterday from reliable sources that an outbreak in the poorer districts of Manila had been carefully planned for daylight on Sunday. It failed to occur, probably on account of the vigorous measures enforced. Many natives of the Tondo district left, taking their valuables. All the small shops, which the guards usually force to close at 8:30 P. M., were shut at sunset. A general feeling of uneasiness was apparent.

The guards of the city were doubled, and a strong force stationed at the slaughter house, the center of an unruly section. Two guns of the Sixth artillery were stationed nearby at a point commanding the native quarters. The commanders of the reserve troops were ordered to be prepared for a call at daylight.

Three native policemen have been arrested on a charge of plotting an uprising. The fact that their comrades informed the authorities of their treachery indicates that the police force is loyal.

GREENE WAS TREATED CIVILLY.

Cape Town, Oct. 18.—Conyngham Greene, from Pretoria, and Consul Evans, from Johannesburg, have arrived here. Mr. Greene was accorded a magnificent reception. A crowd of 3,000 persons who had gathered sang, "Rule Britannia," and "God Save the Queen."

Conyngham Greene, British agent at Pretoria, received every civility on his journey from the Transvaal capital. Six of President Kruger's body guard accompanied Mr. Greene to the border of the Free State, and he received the same treatment from the Free State.

The news of fighting at Modder river is not confirmed.

The station master at Modder river telegraphs that Boers from the north and south have taken Cangershal, which they are fortifying.

FORTY MILES OF NEW ROAD.

Lewiston, Idaho, Oct. 18.—Tomorrow is the date set for turning over the Clearwater branch of the Northern Pacific to the operating department. There will be about 40 miles of the new line running as far as Oro Fino. Work is still progressing for 24 miles further, to a place called Stewart. It is expected that a new train will be put on, running from Lewiston to Oro Fino.

ALONG THE COAST.

Items of General Interest Gleaned From the Thriving Pacific States.

THE STAGE ROBBERY.

It transpired that Van C. Alexander, the man who gave up \$170 of the money stolen from the United States mails on the stage near Westfall, Or., on September 22, is admittedly the main person responsible for the hold-up. The indications during the examination in United States Commissioner Hailey's court here on Saturday, pointing to Alexander as the one planning the robbery, with the two boys as his accomplices, are confirmed by the developments. It is announced here that this phase of the case will be called to the attention of Judge Bellinger, of the federal court at Portland, before whom the two boys are to be tried.

BIG STEAM HEATING PLANT.

Upwards of \$600,000 is to be spent by the Boston capitalists who have purchased the plant of the Seattle Steam Heat & Power Company, and six of the street railway lines of Seattle, in the erection of a new and modern power plant and in the rebuilding and the distributing system. This part of the plant will be almost wholly reconstructed, new mains being laid in conformity with the latest ideas of steam engineering. This is but the beginning of large improvements which will be made. Plans are now being drawn for the new building and plant, which will be finished by January 1, and for the rebuilding of several of the street car lines recently purchased.

MOTIONED SUSTAINED.

Judge Burnett, of Salem, has sustained a motion for non-suit against the plaintiff in the case of L. H. McMahon vs. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company. The action was begun to recover about \$550, alleged to be due the plaintiff on account of advertising in the Woodburn Independent and the Salem Independent. The defense claimed that the agent who made a contract for the advertising had no authority to do so, and that the newspaper company was to take pay in transportation.

LABOR SCARCE AT FAIRHAVEN.

Labor is so scarce in Fairhaven, Wash., that railroad contractors and others are delaying work on various enterprises until more plentiful supply of workmen are to be had—a change from three years ago, when laboring men were sitting around on the curbstones, waiting for something to turn up. Fairhaven's pay roll is almost 16 times larger than it was two years ago, with a certainty of an increase next year.

HILLSBORO YOUNG MAN HURT.

Charles V. Doughty, a young man and resident of Hillsboro, Or., while riding a bicycle at a rapid rate over a crosswalk, was thrown from his wheel and seriously injured. He was rendered unconscious for about two hours, and received a deep cut across the left eye and his upper lip was badly lacerated. The wheel was completely demolished. Young Doughty was a member of company H, Second Oregon volunteers, and enlisted from Hillsboro.

LANDLORDS SMILING.

Portland hotels are generally doing a good business these exposition times, and would soon be filled to overflowing were it not that guests keep going away as well as coming in. About two days is the average length of the out-of-town visitor's stay in the city, and his place is taken just about as quickly as he has vacated. The principal hotels have good long lists of names on the daily registers.

A NINETY-POUND PUMPKIN.

A clothing house at New Whatcom, Wash., gave farmers pumpkin seeds last spring, and offered five prizes for largest results. The first prize went to R. D. Perry, of Clearbrook, whose pumpkin weighed 90 pounds; second, Cal Watkinson, of Edison, 88 pounds; third, Cyrus Bradley, of Lynden, 61 pounds. The fourth and fifth weighed 42 and 37 pounds respectively.

GOLD HILL WATER DITCH.

Engineer J. S. Howard, of Medford, Or., has completed the survey of the Gold Hill water ditch. He employed a party of 12 men, who completed the permanent survey in 98 days. Much interest is shown in the ditch, not only by local enterprise, but by many Eastern capitalists, who are ready to invest money in it.

TO PROPAGATE STEELHEADS.

The Willapa hatchery will be completed this week. As steelheads are more numerous in Willapa river than in any other stream in this section, a special effort will be made to propagate them here, and to stock other streams from this hatchery. The propagation of steelheads has not as yet been attempted in any Washington hatchery.

CATCHES ALL THE FISH.

Lew and Sanford Mayhew have one of their floating traps located near the Point Francis portage, near Whatcom, Wash. It has 300-foot leads and catches all the fish that come its way. The boys say the trap's success is assured, and they will have it towed further up the Sound, where the fall run of fish is better.

ACTIVITY IS WIDESPREAD.

Volume and Value Testify to Prevailing Prosperous Conditions.

Bradstreet's says: Trade activity is widespread, all volume and value testifying to prevailing prosperous conditions. Only good reports are received from distributive trade centers, and some markets report fall demand as holding out longer than expected. Railway earnings, bank clearings, returns and quotations of staple prices are all encouraging, pointing as they do to a maximum volume of business for this period of the year. Crop returns for October bear our earlier impressions of shortened yields of most leading agricultural products. Expectation of more moderate yields of leading cereals is not confined to this country; the world's wheat crop will admittedly be smaller, and rye, barley and oats yields are not expected to be so large as a year ago. The higher range of prices of all staples, and particularly of agricultural products, will furnish a profitable balance of producers.

The liberality of foreign demand is, perhaps, best known in the September report of exports of leading products. Shipment of breadstuffs are as large as those of August, and there was naturally a heavy gain in cotton exports, which are doubled those of the same month a year ago. Totals of leading exports show an increase of 23 per cent over September, 1896, but a decrease of 8.5 per cent from September 1897, which witnessed very heavy shipments of breadstuffs.

Wheat, including flour, shipments for the week aggregate 5,265,634 bushels, against 5,183,398 bushels last week, 4,729,996 bushels in the corresponding week of 1898, 5,549,720 bushels in 1897, 4,156,817 bushels in 1896, and 2,409,446 bushels in 1895.

Business failures in the United States number 164, as compared with 146 last week.

PACIFIC COAST TRADE.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 57@58c; Valley, 58c; Bluestem, 60c per bushel. Flour—Best grades, \$3.25; graham, \$3.65; superfine, \$2.15 per barrel.

Oats—Choice white, 35@36c; choice gray, 33@34c per bushel. Barley—Feed barley, \$15@16.00; brewing, \$18.50@19.00 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$17 per ton; middlings, \$22; shorts, \$18; chop, \$16 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, \$9@11; clover, \$7@8; Oregon wild hay, \$6 per ton. Butter—Fancy creamery, 45@50c; seconds, 40@42½c; dairy, 30@35c; store, 22½@27½c.

Eggs—20@22½c per dozen. Cheese—Oregon full cream, 13c; Young America, 14c; new cheese 10c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.00@4.00 per dozen; hens, \$4.50; springs, \$2.00@3.50; geese, \$6.00@7 for old; \$4.50@6.50 for young; ducks, \$4.50@5.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 12½@14c per pound.

Potatoes—50@60c per sack; sweets, 2@2½c per pound.

Vegetables—Beets, \$1; turnips, 90c; per sack; garlic, 7c per pound; cauliflower, 75c per dozen; parsnips, \$1; beans, 5@6c per pound; celery, 70@75c per dozen; cucumbers, 50c per box; peas, 3@4c per pound; tomatoes, 25c per box; green corn, 12½@15c per dozen.

Hops—7@10c; 1897 crop, 5@6c. Wool—Valley, 12@13c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 8@14c; mohair, 27@30c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 3½c; dressed mutton, 6½@7c per pound; lambs, 7½c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$5.00; light and feeders, \$4.50; dressed, \$6.00@7.00 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$3.50@4.00; cows, \$3@3.50; dressed beef, 6@7½c per pound.

Veal—Large, 6½@7½c; small, 8@8½c per pound.

Seattle Markets.

Onions, new, \$1.25@1.50 per sack. Potatoes, new, 75c@1.10. Beets, per sack, \$1.10. Turnips, per sack, 75c. Carrots, per sack, 90c. Parsnips, per sack, 90c. Cauliflower, 75c per dozen. Cabbage, native and California, \$1@1.25 per 100 pounds.

Peaches, 65@80c. Apples, \$1.25@1.50 per box. Pears, \$1.00@1.25 per box. Prunes, 60c per box. Watermelons, \$1.50. Cantaloupes, 50@75c.

Butter—Creamery, 28c per pound; dairy, 17@22c; ranch, 12½@17c per pound.

Eggs—27@28c. Cheese—Native, 13@14c. Poultry—14c; dressed, 15½c.

Hay—Puget Sound timothy, \$8@11; choice Eastern Washington timothy, \$14@15.

Corn—Whole, \$23.00; cracked, \$23; feed meal, \$23.

Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$21; whole, \$22.

Flour—Patent, per barrel, \$3.50; blended straight, \$3.25; California, \$3.25; buckwheat flour, \$3.50; graham, per barrel, \$2.90; whole wheat flour, \$3.00; rye flour, \$3.75.

Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$15.00; shorts, per ton, \$16.00. Feed—Chopped feed, \$20.50 per ton; middlings, per ton, \$22; oil cake meal, per ton, \$35.00.