

FIGHT IS IMPENDING

Desultory Skirmishes Will Result in a Battle.

REPORT OF BOER VICTORY

British Loss Said to Have Been Fifty-five—British Warships Capture a German Steamer with Recruits for Boer Army at Which Germany Protests—England's Colonies Offer Horses and Troops for the War.

London, Dec. 30.—A Central News dispatch from Chieveley of today's date says:

"A native states that General White made a sortie from Ladysmith yesterday (Friday), carried a strong Boer position and captured a big gun. The statement is confirmed somewhat by the strange silence of the Boers besieging Ladysmith since yesterday."

Americans Fighting for England.

Free Cape, Dec. 29 (Delayed).—Colonel Sandbach, formerly military secretary to the Viceroy of India, has been appointed chief of the intelligence department. The rumor that General White made a sortie from Ladysmith yesterday and captured Umhulung Hill is not confirmed or believed here.

There was a great explosion in the vicinity of the Hill at 10:30 o'clock this morning; it was probably caused by a shell from Ladysmith bursting in the Boer magazine.

Native scouts report that they overheard the Boers making plans to meet the English in the open country, but they are Boers have miles of wire entanglements in the neighborhood of Colenso, where an attack is expected.

The Boers have fortified Potgieter, in the Transvaal, with the field guns captured at Tugela River on December 15.

A great many Americans are serving here with the British mounted brigade. There are 75 in one brigade of 450. The British say there are excellent soldiers and that more of them would be welcome. The presence of Americans is regarded by the British officers as an indication of the friendship between the two nations.

Desultory Firing.

Chieveley Camp, Dec. 29 (Delayed). Several farm houses frequented by the Boers were definitely located by the naval brigade before dark last night, and at 9:30 o'clock shells were thrown at that point.

It has been raining for several hours. Lieutenant Byng, with a strong patrol, has made a reconnaissance toward Springfield. Thorneycroft's mounted infantry made another reconnaissance in the direction of Spitzkop. They say they failed to locate any Boer force.

Colonel Gough, of the Sixteenth Lancers, approached the Tugela River. He saw about one hundred Boer ponies grazing on the plain and ordered his men to fire on them with their rifles.

A racing meet was held here on Boxing Day (December 26), and it was a great success. About 11:30 o'clock, while the racing was in progress, the Boers fired two shots at the outposts of the Irish Fusiliers and the naval brigade, at a comparatively short distance. One man was wounded. The naval guns sent three shots in reply and the Boers retired.

At 9:30 o'clock this morning the naval brigade began firing on a Boer emplacement, about 11,000 yards away, and made excellent practice.

India Offers Troops and Horses.

Calcutta, Dec. 30.—The rulers of Kashmir, Mysore and Jodlipur have offered troops and horses to the government for service in South Africa. The government has accepted the horses. Jodlipur is a famous horse-breeding centre.

Ceylon Volunteers Accepted.

Colombo, Ceylon, Dec. 30.—The English authorities have accepted an offer of a corps of mounted infantry for service in South Africa. Many planters are volunteering.

Gen. Roberts Successor.

London, Dec. 30.—The Duke of Connaught has been appointed commander-in-chief of the forces in Ireland in place of Field Marshal Lord Roberts.

Sharp Fighting at Mafeking.

Pretoria, Dec. 26 (Delayed).—Commandant Snyman reports from Mafeking December 24 as follows: "The enemy attacked our fort with cannon, Maxim's and an armored train. The fighting was carried to the walls of the fort. We retained the fort. The British loss is reported to have been fifty-five."

British Losses Severe.

London, Dec. 30.—A Boer representation from Mafeking in regard to a recent fight there is to the effect that the British losses were 100 and those of the Boers nine.

CARRIED CONTRABAND OF WAR

German Merchant Steamer Captured by the British.

London, Dec. 30.—The German East African line steamship Bundesrath

ON AN OCEAN LINER.



"TO THE NEW YEAR."

has been captured as a prize by British warships and taken to Durban. Three German officers and twenty men, clad in khaki uniforms, who intended to serve in the Boer army, were passengers on the Bundesrath.

Germany Demands Investigation.

Hamburg, Dec. 30.—It is stated here that the Bundesrath did not carry any contraband of war. It is reported that the foreign office has promised to investigate the affair at once.

Canadians Seize Seditious Buttons.

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—The custom officials of Toronto recently seized a consignment of buttons inscribed "Victory to Boers." A circular has been issued declaring all importations of this character seditious and therefore prohibited.

Watching Boer Supporters.

New Orleans, Dec. 30.—Two members of the British secret service have arrived here for the purpose of looking into the reported enlistment of volunteers for the Boers, as well as the shipment of provisions to the Transvaal.

Greeting the Queen.

London, Dec. 30.—The War Office has received a message from the mayor of Kimberley, dated December 28, on behalf of the inhabitants, a New Year's greeting to the Queen.

Her Majesty replied as follows: "I am deeply touched by your loyal greetings. I watch with admiration your determined and gallant defense, though I regret the unavoidable loss of life incurred."

STEAMER IDENTIFIED.

She Was the Pelotas, Carried No Passengers and Will Be a Total Loss.

London, Dec. 30.—The steamship which went ashore in the gale last night near Dungeness is the Pelotas, of the South American-Hamburg Line. She carried no passengers. There is little chance of getting the vessel off, as her back is broken. The Pelotas sailed from Santos, Brazil, on December 7. There is a heavy sea still running, but the wind has decreased. Communication was established between the stranded liner and the shore by means of rockets.

The Pelotas' gross tonnage is 2,944. She is 361.3 feet long, 44.8 feet beam and 25.7 feet draught.

Col. Bryan Starts His Campaign.

Austin, Dec. 30.—Colonel Bryan left this afternoon for Lincoln. He stated he would be absent a month, and deliver addresses at a number of places in the north and east. Mrs. Bryan and the children will remain in Austin until next April.

Queen's Surgeon Dead.

London, Dec. 30.—Surgeon Paget is dead. Since 1877 he has been surgeon to the Queen and has been surgeon to the Prince of Wales since 1893.

LAWTON'S LAST SLEEP

Funeral Conducted at Manila With Military Pomp.

REMAINS ON TRANSPORT

Funeral Ship Sails for San Francisco—Interment Will Take Place at Arlington—The Army in the Philippines Pays the Last Tribute to the Dead General—Ceremonies Solemn and Imposing.

Manila, Dec. 30.—General Lawton's funeral took place this morning. At 8 o'clock the artillery began firing a half hour salute of thirteen guns. Thousands of natives in carriages crowded the Paco Cemetery, where the body had been temporarily placed in a vault. It was almost impossible to pass through the crowd, but later on the Filipino police arrived and opened a passageway for traffic. Officers and guards arrived at the same time from all directions.

At 9:45 a. m. Trumpeter Haberkam sounded "taps" after Chaplain Maria had offered prayer in the chapel. Color Sergeant Simon, and Orderlies Okum and Mohrhosen, who, with Trumpeter Haberkam, are the sole survivors of Lawton's Fourth cavalry, occupied conspicuous places. General Otis was present. At 10 o'clock the casket was carried to a caisson by members of General Lawton's staff, who were acting pall-bearers.

The march began shortly afterward. The procession was headed by the native police band and the Twentieth United States infantry. General Hall commanded the first division, which included two troops of the Fourth cavalry, Lawton's old command, Battery F, of the Fourth artillery, and the Fourteenth United States infantry.

Chaplain Pierce marched behind the caisson. Next came General Lawton's horse, led by an orderly. Then followed the pall-bearers in three carriages. Next in line were Generals Wheeler, Bates, Forsythe, Kobbie and Schwan. Admiral Watson marched beside General Wheeler.

The naval battalion followed. General Otis and the staff in carriages were next in line. After them came the foreign consuls in the uniforms of their countries, the president and head men of the various tribes in the island of Luzon.

The march from the cemetery led down to the Luneta, which was lined with troops. At the Andra Monument the procession halted and Chaplain Pierce pronounced the benediction. Thence the march was resumed to Pasig, and the casket was finally

placed on a launch, and transferred to the transport Thomas, which will probably sail for San Francisco tonight. Major Edward and Captains Sewall and King will accompany the body to the United States as a guard of honor. At the request of Mrs. Lawton, Chaplain Pierce will also sail on the transport, and will conduct the final services at Arlington Cemetery. At noon, when the launch sailed away for the transport, the usual naval volleys were omitted.

A majority of the towns, from Manila to Tayuga, where General Lawton had established civil government, sent representatives to the funeral. They were dressed in the deepest mourning, and brought magnificent wreaths and engrossed resolutions. Yesterday committees of women and girls, laden with flowers, came from various towns to Manila, to condole with Mrs. Lawton. At the funeral today all the foreigners brought flowers and expressed the deepest sympathy. The Filipino also contributed flowers, and expressed their sympathy with the family. Every flag in Manila was at half mast during the ceremonies.

USEFUL CAREER ENDS.

Dr. Murray, Prominent Methodist Divine, Died Yesterday.

Baltimore, Dec. 30.—Rev. Dr. Murray, agent of the Maryland Tract Society and one of the best known ministers in the Methodist Protestant Church, died today of pneumonia. In every general conference, almost without exception, he sat as a delegate from his conference from the time of his early ministry onward.

His most enduring work was in the moulding of legislation, the shaping of the ritual and the perfecting of the church's policy.

CUBAN CABINET FORMED.

General Wood Publicly Announces His New Assistants.

Havana, Dec. 30.—Governor General Wood will announce the following cabinet tomorrow:

Secretary of State, Diego Tamago; Secretary of Justice, Luis Estevez; Secretary of Instruction, Juan B. Hernandez; Secretary of Finance, Enrique Varona; Secretary of Public Works, Jose R. Villalon; Secretary of Agriculture, Ruis Rivera.

All these men stand high in the opinion of Cubans, and their appointment will undoubtedly give satisfaction. The new officials will commence their duties January 2.

Rudyard Kipling Ill.

London, Dec. 30.—Rudyard Kipling is confined to his bed with an attack of influenza. His illness is not of a nature to cause anxiety. Mrs. Kipling and the two children are also suffering from influenza at their home in Brighton.

Leaves for His Post.

London, Dec. 30.—Alderbert S. Hay, the recently appointed American consul at Pretoria, left London today for Southampton, where he will take a steamship for South Africa.

GLOOM NOT DISPELLED

London Feels Anxiety Over Impending Fight.

ATTACKS ON WAR OFFICE

A Certain Portion of the Press Scared War Officials—May Be Called to a Strict Accounting in the Future—Now the Whole Idea of the General Public is to Win the War—Volunteer Movement Increasing in Enthusiasm.

London, Dec. 30.—Contrary to all expectations, General Methuen seems resolved to remain entrenched at the Modder River, where both the British and Boers are daily strengthening their positions. This is also contrary to all continental military opinion. The general's preparations, however, point to a second attack soon.

Inasmuch as the Boers have greatly strengthened their positions since the battle at Colenso, there is considerable anxiety felt regarding the result of another attempt. In the centre General French continues the good work, while General Gatacre, by the seizure of Dordrecht, has distinctly improved his position, both from a political and a military point of view. He now commands some thirty miles of country in which he can prevent considerable disaffection, and he is also enabled to watch Stormberg, which is the Boers' chief stronghold in Cape Colony from two sides.

But with a prolonged lull in actual happenings on the scene of war, attention in England is chiefly directed to other points. A certain portion of the press, which was foremost in urging war, tried, when disappointed, to distract attention from its own blunders by attacking the general, but the public would have none of this. The attack has since been confined to the war office, and particularly Lansdowne, secretary of war, and Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, chancellor of the exchequer. Doubtless when the war is over, a strict account will be demanded for their shortcomings. To first win in the war is still the leading idea of the public, and the volunteer movement is increasing in enthusiasm. Probably ten thousand yeomanry will be enlisted, and India will also provide many much-needed horses, so that within six weeks there will probably be enough mounted men in South Africa to do really efficient work, though it is unsatisfactory to think that the horse sickness season is due within a month.

Military Expert's Opinion.

A foreign military expert, writing to The Times regarding the situation in South Africa, voices the general opinion when he says General Methuen should be recalled immediately to join hands with General Gatacre at Raauvoort, supported by all the troops now arriving at Cape Town. When the three divisions, Methuen's, Gatacre's and Warren's, have joined, an advance should be made on Bloemfontein, further reinforcements securing the railways between the Free State, Port Elizabeth and East London. Meanwhile Buller, without reinforcements, should keep as many of the enemy as possible in Natal. The expert argues that it is not even desirable for Buller to inflict a defeat on the Boers before there is a strong column in the Free State, as the Boers would have a refuge in the strong passes, whence it would be most difficult to dislodge them.

The Delagoa Bay Question

London, Dec. 30.—So strong is the one idea to first defeat the Boers that all questions arising out of the war are only of the slightest general interest. This applies also to seizure of American flour cargoes on British ships bound for Delagoa Bay. The government has not yet made the slightest declaration on the subject. While every one agrees that to make food a contraband of war would be diametrically opposed to the welfare of England in the long run, it is believed that when the prize courts have handed the present cases it will be found that no precedent has been established.

Sir Charles Dilke in an interview declares it is folly for England to make foodstuffs contraband of war. It is impossible, he declares, to prevent men from entering the Transvaal via Delagoa Bay if they declare they are members of the Red Cross.

Official opinion is inclined to think that the debarkation of males destined for South Africa is preventable, inasmuch as they are likely to be commandeered, and thereby can be rightly considered as an enemy of the British. A portion of the English are strongly in favor of seizing Delagoa Bay, but the weight of opinion, including members of the cabinet, regard such policy impossible.

The condition of affairs in Delagoa Bay may be judged by the fact that the Portuguese authorities have formally warned the senior British naval officer there that they cannot guarantee the safety of ships lying in the harbor. A second Maine crime is practically out of the question, still such warning is in itself suggestive.

MONTGOMERY INCIDENT.

Cruiser Was Sent to Allay Fear of Little Republic.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Some accurate information concerning the underlying reason for the cruiser Montgomery's visit to the port of Liberia, Sierra Leone, was obtained today. The information came from an officer whose knowledge of the facts and right to speak of the administration is unquestioned. According to his statement, for more than a year the government of Liberia has been much alarmed over the suspicion that European nations were contemplating seizure of its territory. The Liberian government has appealed to the United States for support in preserving its integrity. The United States addressed polite notes to the governments of Great Britain, Germany and France, calling attention to the perturbation of the African republic and requesting that assurances be given to quiet fears so prevalent at Monroevia. Prompt responses of a satisfactory character have been received by the United States.

ENGLAND GRACIOUSLY CONSENTS

Will Permit U. S. Officer to Accompany Boers.

Washington, Dec. 30.—A cablegram from the acting consul at Pretoria was received by Secretary Hay today, saying that the Transvaal authorities graciously consented to the request of the United States that an American army officer be allowed to accompany the Boers in the field. The War Department will designate an officer without delay.

At the beginning of the South African war the United States requested permission from England to allow four army officers to accompany the British forces, but England expressed disinclination to provide for so many officers. As a result only one, Captain Stocum, who is now with Buller, was sent.

COAL MINERS STRIKE

Pennsylvania Workers Will Go Out First of January

Altoona, Pa., Dec. 30.—The bituminous coal miners in this section met in convention at Portage last night and ordered a strike January 1. About 1,000 men at Portage, Puritan and nearby collieries are involved. Sessions were also held at Barnesboro and Patton, at which points the miners also voted to strike for the increase demanded at the Clearfield convention. At these points, however, the men will await the action of the United Mine Workers, now in session at Indianapolis.

DEATH OF COL. A. H. STOKES

Prominent Citizen of Durham Passes Away

Durham, N. C., Dec. 30.—Special.—Col. A. H. Stokes, one of Durham's best known and most highly esteemed citizens, passed away tonight. The deceased was a native of Caswell county, but spent the greater part of his most useful life here. He was ex-chairman of the county commissioners, vice-president of the Fidelity National Bank, and a life-long Democrat. Col. Stokes married a daughter of Squire M. A. Andrews, and she, together with two children, survive him. He was a brother-in-law of Mr. B. N. Duke. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon.

FIVE BLOWN SKYWARD

Boiler Explosion Kills Five and Four Were Wounded in Jersey

Lancaster, Pa., Dec. 30.—Four lives were lost and five injured this morning by the explosion of a boiler used in the Pennsylvania Railroad track improvements near Elizabethtown. As the engineer, a negro from Virginia, was blown to pieces, the cause of the accident cannot be ascertained. A large number of men were warming themselves about the boiler when it went to pieces.

FREIGHT TRAIN KILLS FOUR

Southern Railway Train Runs Into Gang of Bridge Builders.

Columbia, Dec. 30.—A work train, constructing a bridge over the Tiger River, where it is crossed by the Washington & Atlanta main line of the Southern road, was run into this afternoon by a freight train. Two bridge-builders were killed and four others badly injured.

Rumor Starts a Panic

Lyons, Dec. 30.—A run on the LYONS Five-Cent Saving Bank began this morning because of rumors that the bank was involved deeply in the failure of the Globe Bank of Boston, of whose stock it held eighty-eight shares. Its surplus is \$1,000,000, and the bank officers said they could meet all demands.

Insurance Companies Will Quit Texas

Austin, Dec. 30.—It is stated that a number of prominent fire insurance companies will withdraw from Texas the first of the year on account of the new anti-trust law.

Mercier Will Be Arrested.

Paris, Dec. 30.—It is reported that the government has decided to arrest General Mercier. This action will be taken in connection with the proceedings against Marcel Habert.

£2,000,000 Trust in England.

London, Dec. 30.—A hat trade trust is about to be formed in England, with a capital of £2,000,000.