

## War News.

London, Dec. 8.—Apparently three very important battles are impending. Gen. Buller's advance guard is beyond Frere, and it is now believed that the battle has begun. He will encounter the Boers in a strongly fortified road to Ladysmith. The front of Gen. Methuen's column is north of Modder river, and the Boers are also located in a thoroughly strengthened position. General Getaire and forces in northern Cape Colony are apparently in danger of being beset by overwhelming numbers. In each of these quarters a battle may occur at any time. London people realize this, and all quiver with anxiety, expectancy and hope.

### Cannot Estimate Boer Forces.

The most striking thing of the military situation is the continued out-springing of Boer forces in whatever direction the British reconnoitre, and the War office people confess that they are unable to estimate the total number of armed Boers.

### British Transport Wrecked.

Cape Town, Dec. 8.—The transport Ismore is a total wreck in St. Helena bay. All the men and twenty horses were saved. The rest of the horses and all the guns were lost.

### Australia's Attitude Toward the War.

Melbourne, Dec. 8.—The Transvaal war is by no means popular in Australia, and is the real cause of the Queensland, Victoria and South Australia Legislatures overthrowing their cabinets. A motion was offered for troops to assist Great Britain without consulting the Legislatures, and the Bulletin and other papers in Sydney are printing savage cartoons of Chamberlain.

### Restoring Communication With Mafeking.

Mogala Phy, Nov. 3.—Preparations are being completed to advance a force tomorrow to repair the railway and endeavor to restore communication with Mafeking. The Boers are reported in force at Gabrones, and a strong natural position is with seven pounders, and a maxim gun is in commanding bugles with the line.

Modder River, December 9.—Gen. Methuens' troops, after recuperating a week at Jarra, are now in fine condition. The new wooden bridge across the river is almost completed. There was an exchange of shots by the outposts early this morning and also yesterday. The shots show that the Boer outposts are only four or five miles from the main camp in the direction of Jacobsdale. The Boers are entrenched in the hills from Spytfonte in to the south, and also at Kopjes overlooking the railroad.

### Battle Began Wednesday.

London, December 9.—A pretoria despatch says the battle at Modder river began Wednesday morning.

### Capitulation of Mafeking.

Paris, December 9.—The papers yesterday printed a definite announcement of the capitulation of Mafeking.

### Prisoners Kill Two Boys.

Cape Town, December 9.—Several Colonial Boers committed for trial charged with treason, are reported by the Boers to have murdered two boys who strayed into Kimberley.

### Dumdum Bullets Discovered.

London, December 9.—A despatch from Queenstown states that Gen. Gatacre seized a number of rifles and a quantity of ammunition including dumdum cartridges at two stores.

### More Peace Commission Talk.

Cape Town, December 9.—A peace commission is again reported as coming from Pretoria accompanied by an envoy associated with Schriener's ministry.

### For Dead and Wounded.

Durban, December 8.—The authorities have called out twenty two hundred stretcher bearers for service

at the front immediately. This has caused great excitement. It is believed it foreshadows the early advance of Gen. Buller.

### Using The Bicycle.

Frere Camp, December 9.—Newspaper dispatches are now going to the telegraph station by bicycle riders. The army is ahead of railway and telegraph lines.

### Women in The Boer Camps.

Frere Camp, December 9.—The Boers are running special excursion trains from Pretoria to the Boer camps and many women are coming in to see the sights and also look after their husbands and sons at the front.

### 3,000 Troops Advancing

London, December 9.—A Pretoria despatch dated Dec. 8, says that three thousand British troops with an armored train are advancing toward Calesburgh from Navupourt.

### War Officials Silent.

London, December 9.—War officials here decline to discuss the report from Cape Town saying that Major Elliot is arming the natives in Griquiland and the east.

### Free Staters Forced Into Service.

London, December 9.—Reports from Bloombfontein say that everybody is compelled to do duty in the army, and it is stated that the free staters have decided not to defend Bloombfontein as it is not fortified, but to make a stand at Bainsvler south west of Bloombfontein.

### President Steyn's Mind Failing.

Cape Town, December 9.—A report is in circulation that President Steyn is failing mentally. He has commanded Frazer, his opponent, to the Presidency.

London, December 11.—While proceeding on a forced march from Stormberg on the Boer position Gen. Gatacre's force was suddenly attacked on the front and flanks by the Boers 12 miles from Stormberg.

The battle lasted for three hours and the fighting was heavy, the British meeting a crushing defeat. They retired pursued by the Boers, who used machine guns. The British finally reached Molleno, many having fallen and hundreds being missing. A full list is not yet obtainable.

The repulse is regarded as the most serious of the campaign, and it is feared it will have a bad effect on the Dutch in Cape Colony, who may now join the Boers.

The Boers are still in force at Modder River. At Spytfontein they are making entrenchments. All is quiet at Kimberly. Mafeking reports all well.

### British Smarting for Revenge.

Molleno, December 11.—Though deeply chagrined by a defeat by the Boers at Stormberg, Gen. Gatacre's army is not disheartened, but preparing today to give the Boers a warm reception if an attack is made. Every effort is being made by the British to push their troops to points of advantage and carry this camp if an assault is made. Reinforcements for General Gatacre's army are being rushed at breakneck speed. The British army hopes the enemy will attempt an attack, for the men are smarting because of defeat, and are eager for revenge.

### Gatacre's Men Number 2,500.

London, December 11.—A telegram from Molleno arrived yesterday at noon, and estimates that Gen. Gatacre's forces number twenty-five hundred. Disorder occurred during the retreat, owing to the fatigue of the men and the constant shelling of the Boers.

### Boer Guns Outranged.

Modder River, December 11.—Gen. Pole Carew's Howitzer battery and a naval gun drew the fire of the Boer guns, completely unmasking the enemy's position in long sweeping trenches. The British guns completely outranged the Boer guns.

### Anxious to Fight.

Orange River, December 9.—De-

laid.—Half of the Canadian contingency has gone to the front. They have had some stiff work, but are in fine shape and are anxious to get into the fighting.

### Gold Mine Operators Active.

We quote a Raleigh correspondent to the Charlotte Observer as follows:

"Raleigh people now own most of the stock in the Portis gold mine, which is on the border between Nash and Franklin counties. The mine has been operated more or less regularly for 60 years. The new owners have put in a 15-stamp mill. The ore is crushed and there is also sluice-washing. It is now proposed to put in a hydraulic plant, as a fall of 105 feet has been secured. The ore body is large and the shafts are hence shallow, the deepest being only 30 feet. The dirt is also rich. There are said to be now only some ten stamp mills in operation in the State, with perhaps 15 idle."

### DEATH OF CAPT. JOHN WILLIAMS.

A Man of Sterling Qualities—Has Relatives in Wilson.

Oxford, N. C., December 9.—On Friday evening Capt. John Williams was stricken with paralysis and died. He was a brother of Col. H. G. Williams, of Wilson, the late Hon. A. H. A. Williams, and an uncle of L. E. Cooper, one of the proprietors of the Watson Warehouse in this city. His relatives and friends deeply mourn the loss of a devoted and steadfast companion.

## DIRECTORY.

### LOCAL TRAINS.

N. Bound.	LOCAL TRAINS.	S. Bound.
Between Florence and Weldon.		
No. 78.		No. 23.
2:35 P. M. Leaves Wilson		1:58 P. M.
Between Wilmington and Norfolk:		
No. 48.		No. 49.
1:16 P. M. Leaves Wilson,		2:35 P. M.
Between Goldsboro and Norfolk.		
No. 102.		No. 103
5:38 A. M. Leaves Wilson		7:10 P. M.
"Shoo Fly" Wilmington to Rocky Mt:		
No. 40.		No. 41.
10:35 P. M. Leaves Wilson,		6:22 A. M.

### CITY OFFICERS.

MAYOR—JAMES T. WIGGINS.

### ALDERMEN:

ED. B. MAYO,	1st Ward.
W. J. DAVIS,	2nd "
W. P. ANDERSON,	3rd "
JOHN Y. MOORE	4th "
JOHN RILEY,	5th "

City Attorney—C. C. Daniels.  
City Clerk—Jno. R. Moore.  
Collector—W. E. Deans.  
Treasurer—W. E. Warren.  
Supt. Water Works—R. J. Grantham.  
Electric Lights—J. T. Wilson.  
Electrician—Ernest Meredith.  
Street Overseer—Amos Walston.

### POLICE:

J. H. MARSHBOURNE, Chief.  
FRANK FELTON, GEO. MUNFORD,  
G. P. BRYANT, EPHRIAM HARRELL.

### COUNTY OFFICERS.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:  
GEO. D. GREEN, NATHAN BASS,  
JAS. G. RAPER.

W. D. P. SHARP, Sheriff,  
J. D. BARDIN, Clerk of Superior Court  
W. B. BARNES, Register of Deeds.  
W. T. FARMER, Treasurer,  
DR. J. K. RUFFIN, Coroner.  
JAS. E. TAYLOR, Surveyor.

### LODGES.

Regular meetings of Mt. Lebanon Lodge No. 117 A. F. & A. M. are held in their hall, corner of Nash and Goldsboro streets on the 1st and 3rd Monday nights at 7:30 o'clock p. m. each month.  
W. J. BOYKIN, W. M.

Regular meetings of Mt. Lebanon Chapter No. 27 are held in the Masonic Hall every 2nd Monday night at 7:30 o'clock p. m. each month.  
W. J. BOYKIN, H. P.

Regular meetings of Mt. Lebanon Commandery No. 7 are held in the Masonic hall every 4th Monday night at 7:30 o'clock each month.  
Lat Williams, E. C.

J. O. U. A. M. Meeting every Monday night at 7:30 o'clock. I. O. O. F. Hall. R. H. FULGHUM, Councillor.

Regular meetings of Wilson Lodge K. of H. No. 1694 are held in their hall over the 1st National Bank every 1st Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock, p. m.  
B. F. BIGGS, Director.

Regular meetings of Contentnea Lodge, No. 87, K. of P., are held in Odd Fellows' Hall every Thursday night. Visiting members always welcome.

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