

New Bern Daily Journal.

VOL. XVII—NO. 259.

NEW BERN, N. C., SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 27, 1900.

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FORCED BACK.

General Warren Has Abandoned Spion Kop to the Boers.

LADYSMITH MUST SURELY FALL.

Such is the Fear Expressed in London. More Troops to Embark Valuable Ground Has Been Lost.

Special to Journal.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The War Office posted the following despatch from General Buller this morning, dated at Spearman's Camp, Thursday, January 25th, noon: "General Warren's garrison, I am sorry to say, I find this morning had last night abandoned Spion Kop."

It is impossible to say at present the British have suffered a reverse, or whether the movement from Spion Kop was dictated by strategic reasons. Obviously the position was useless unless the guns could be planted on it.

Discovering this to be impossible General Warren may have decided it was unsafe to attempt to hold the position any longer, or else found a more favorable aspect at another point.

Whatever may be the explanation of the abandonment of Spion Kop, it doubtless will have the same moral effect as a reverse. It seems to have been so entirely unexpected at the War Office, that General Buller's dispatch caused something near to consternation.

The only official comment was, "Apparently General Warren found the position too hot to hold."

Military critics make no effort to conceal their chagrin, expressing the gravest fears as to the ultimate fate of Ladysmith.

Such authorities as Major-General Sir Frederick Carrington, under orders in South Africa, and Lord Gifford, who won the Victoria Cross scouting under Lord Wolseley in the Boer war, would not be surprised to hear of the capture of General Buller's forces within the week.

General Buller reports the following casualties on January 14th: Killed, officers 6, non-commissioned officers and men 18; wounded, officers 19, non-commissioned officers and men 149. Missing 31.

LONDON, Jan. 26. Special.—A cabinet meeting was held this afternoon at which the matter of abandoning Spion Kop was closely studied.

As a result of the news from General Buller, orders were sent today to Aldershot to have the Fourth Cavalry division held in readiness to embark for South Africa early in February.

Early Report.

LONDON, January 26.—General Buller's dispatch announcing the occupation of Spion kop is the only news on the subject that has been permitted by the War Office to become public, and that is so brief that London has little or no detail as to what happened.

If Spion kop is situated, as indicated on the maps, at the point where two ridges unite, running toward Dewdrop to the northeast and toward Acton Homes to the northwest, its occupation by British troops must have cut the advanced Boer position in two. According to General Buller's dispatch the Boer position on the Tugela is rendered untenable by the capture of Spion kop, assuming of course that the British are able to hold it.

The Boers were holding a long line of some 30 miles, their extreme right at Spion kop and Tabanyama mountains, their center opposite Potgieter's drift and the left at Colenso. It was impossible for them to be equally strong in force throughout this distance. While they held Lyttelton's brigade in check at Potgieter's they tried an attack, which proved ineffectual, against Buller's brigade at Colenso.

It was natural for the Boers to suppose that the attack, which had gone on almost uninterruptedly for four days on the western slope of Tabanyama would be continued on the 25th day. They therefore, perhaps strengthened their extreme right, leaving Spion Kop, which possibly they deemed inaccessible, with only a small garrison. Such a situation would have afforded General Warren a good opening.

Owing to the night march and sudden surprise, Warren did not suffer many losses before dawn broke, but Buller states that the Boer shell fire was destructive during Wednesday and he fears the loss was considerable.

Boer positions are supposed to lie on two ridges running to the northwest and northeast, at a level of 200 feet below, commanded by the summit of Spion Kop. The latter position is nine miles in a direct line from Dewdrop, where many important roads converge.

If the Boers are forced from their present positions, two roads from Ticker's drift and Potgieter's drift which converge at Dewdrop, would be cut off for Warren's Division and Lyttelton's Brigade.

Behind Spion Kop there are several fine positions, which will doubtless be held by the Boers. The most advanced is a high mountain, four miles to the north. General Buller's garrison, may not be successful in its former attack on Arnot's Hill from a low position, unless the Boers occupy strong positions. At least they will be in a position to...

one more battle will doubtless have to be fought before Buller can stretch out his hands to General White.

On the Stock Exchange the news was received with great enthusiasm, but there was not a considerable jump in prices, as the disposition is to profit by past exuberance and exercise caution until confirmatory information has been received that the Boer position is really untenable and that the British victory is substantial.

BOER LOSS.

They Suffered Heavily in Sunday's Fight. Ammunition Giving Out.

DURBAN, Jan. 26.—Stories of General Warren's fight Sunday brought here are to the effect that the British found 130 dead in the first Boer line, and took 160 prisoners. The latter were brought here yesterday. They state that the Boer ammunition was nearly exhausted and that the burghers were using cartridges which had been condemned by General Joubert.

AFTER PEACE.

No Representations From the Philippines Receive Attention. What McKinley Says.

WASHINGTON, January 26.—Not a ripple was caused in Washington by the publication of the request of Senator Mabini, who was credited with being the subject member of Aguinaldo's cabinet and who is now a prisoner, in Manila, that either a new Civil Commission be sent to the Philippines or a Commission of the United States in order that Congress may legislate intelligently for the islands. The fact that Senator Mabini is a prisoner, and Aguinaldo a fugitive in hiding, detracts from the importance of anything he might say. But the principal reason the request excited no interest was that it is very well known that Congress has no idea of legislating for the Philippines until peace has been fully established.

Senator McKinley, of La., differs from his party colleagues in his opinion of the war in the Philippines. He said, in a speech, this week: "I do not stop to inquire now whether my country in the Philippines is right or not. I do not inquire who fired the first shot which precipitated hostilities. It is enough for me to know that my government has been assailed, and I will uphold its hands until its enemies have been brought into subjection."

OUT IN THE COLD.

By a Big Majority Roberts is Kept From His Seat in the House.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Mr. Brigham H. Roberts, who no longer has the right to use the prefix "Hon.," now has some idea of what always happens in the man who files in the face of public opinion. The people of this country have quietly permitted men with many and serious faults to sit in both branches of Congress, but they draw the line of propriety. While there has at no time been a doubt that Roberts would be turned out in the cold, there was a relieved feeling when the vote of the House which settled the matter once for all and which will be an effective warning for the future was announced, and the applause with which it was received, on the floor of the House as well as in the galleries, was as natural as the result itself. The man who gained the most, individually, from the Roberts case was Representative Littlefield, of Maine, who succeeded the late Mr. Dingley. The vote in the House was 208 to 96 against Roberts. Kitchin and Small of North Carolina voted in favor of Roberts.

The Philippine War.

MANILA, January 25.—A part of General Schwan's column, consisting of six companies, with some artillery, drove a force of 500 Filipinos from their intrenchments at San Diego, near Pablo, on Sunday.

The natives officially reported that they lost 97 killed and many wounded. American losses were one killed and 14 wounded, the injuries in most instances being slight.

Another battalion, while executing a flank movement, came upon 100 Filipinos in an intrenched position and routed them, killing 15. The Americans lost two wounded.

General Schwan moved against Major J. Lagoon Peralta, on Tuesday. He found his position almost impregnable, but by investing him down the steep river banks by ropes flanked the enemy and drove them out. A part of his command proceeded to Santa Cruz.

General Wheeler and his daughter left Wednesday on the transport "Vernon" for San Francisco, via Hongkong and Coim.

Plague Panic in Honolulu.

VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 25.—The steamer "Klondike," which has just arrived here, has cases of 28 deaths at Honolulu from the plague, one of a white woman of good class.

Honolulu is panic-stricken. An armed mob prevents the landing of steamer at 10.

President Chamber of the city Board of Health, had 10 blocks of houses burned. Thirty-four hundred specimens at Honolulu are in quarantine.

OUR WEATHER.

Interesting Figures Of Last Year's Temperature and Conditions.

Progress on the Orphanage. New Rifles Received. A Fast Railroad Run. The Proposed Masonic Temple Study Of Farm Soils.

RAISON, Jan. 26.—A very interesting publication is made by C. F. Von Herrmann, in charge of the weather bureau here. It is a summary of last year's weather. The year 1899 was phenomena from a meteorological point of view. The barometer was the highest in 28 years. This was at Raleigh in February, when it registered 30.95 inches. The February snow-storm and cold wave, 11th-15th, surpassed in severity any similar occurrence of which there is any record. A snowfall of 18 to 24 inches was then reported at seven stations. The lowest temperature, 19 below zero, was at Highlands, Macon county, February 18th; the highest, 106 degrees, at Tarboro, September 6th. The annual mean temperature of the State was 58.8 degrees, which was below the normal for 25 years. The highest yearly mean was at Southport; the lowest at Linville. The snowfall averaged 19 inches, which was the highest in a great many years. The highest wind velocity was 105 miles an hour at Hatteras, August 17. The average number of clear days was 169.

It is said that for many years there has occasionally been spasmodic counterfeiting, mainly of nickels, in the penitentiary here. Two years ago an official said this was the case. Moulds have been found. The convicts who made the stuff passed it upon their fellow prisoners.

The contract is awarded for the building of the first cottage at the Methodist Orphanage here. The orphanage, being an educational institution, is allowed to participate in the "twentieth century movement" of the Methodist Church and contributions can be made to it.

Two hundred new rifles for the First Regiment were received at the arsenal. It is expected that the regiment will be equipped next week.

A special train on the Seaboard Air Line Tuesday made the 150 mile run from Monroe here in 120 minutes.

J. C. L. Harris, who is State claim agent, is making fresh efforts to get an early settlement of all the claims growing out of the mobilization of volunteers for the war with Spain. About \$100,000 of these claims remain unsettled.

A lot of \$25,000 of Raleigh 4 per cent bonds was offered by a Minneapolis firm at 102 and interest. North Carolina 4s are now worth 102.

John S. Cunningham is here. He is a member of the committee appointed by the grand lodge of Masons to co-operate with the local lodges in regard to building a temple here today. He states that he subscribes \$100 to the building fund.

Ashley Horne is president of the Knitting Mill Company, organized at Clayton. He subscribes one-third of the \$75,000.

The farms the Agricultural Department, will operate near Tarboro and Red Springs are not experiment farms, but for the study of soils.

Spler Whitaker, who, in the civil war was lieutenant and adjutant of the Thirty-third North Carolina Regiment, is preparing some facts about the regiment for publication in the records. He says that Stonewall Jackson was shot and mortally wounded by the Eighteenth North Carolina Regiment; that the entire Thirty-third was on the skirmish line; that Jackson and A. P. Hill rode through this skirmish line and the latter was ordered not to fire until these officers returned; that they did return; that in rear of the Thirty-third from the Federal some firing was heard from the latter. The bullets flew among the Thirty-third and the latter was ordered to lie down. Bullets were also coming among the Thirty-third from the Federal troops in front, so the regiment was being fired on both in front and rear, but escaped by lying down.

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Fresh Buckwheat, Oatflakes, Grits, Big Hominy, Rice.

Small Hams, Breakfast Strips, and English Cured Shoulders.

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Fresh Canned Goods of all kinds.

Another lot that nice 30c Table Butter.

Anything you want in Groceries at Rock Bottom Prices.

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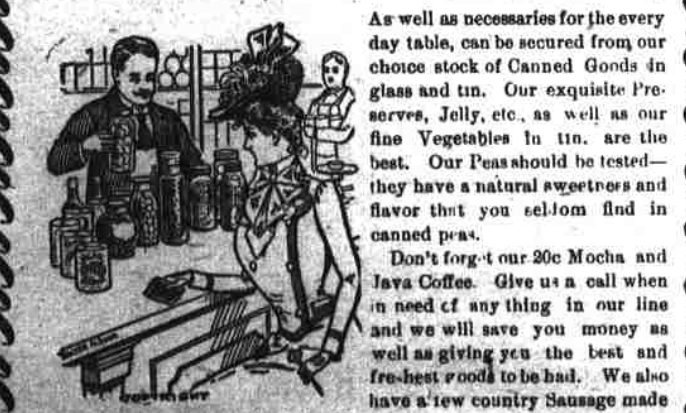
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