

BEYOND WAR

BOERS STILL SHOWING MORE STRATEGY THAN THE BRITISH.

Also Taking Great Precautions Against a Sudden Attack on Their Trenches in the Darkness.

LADYSMITH SHELLED AGAIN

BUT NO REPLY MADE BY GENERAL WHITE'S BELEAGUERED FORCE.

Skirmish in Which Buller's Patrol Killed Nine Boers and Captured Six Wagons.

HILLS TURNED INTO FORTS

EVERY KOPJE NEAR COLENSO BRISTLING WITH GUNS.

Change in the Tactics of Joubert's Soldiers--Reconnoissances by Gen. Methuen--Shots Exchanged.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—A dispatch from Chieveley Camp, Natal, dated Dec. 27, says: "A heavy Boer gun on Bulwana hill fired steadily upon Ladysmith throughout the morning. Ladysmith did not respond. The enemy has been again detected attempting to improve their trenches facing General Buller. The British heavy guns opened on them and the Boers scampered back into the hills. The British patrols sighted the enemy in force on the extreme left. Nine Boers were killed in a skirmish that followed and six Boer wagons were captured."

Further advices from Ladysmith say: "The field fortifications would now withstand any organized attack the enemy is likely to deliver. There are sufficient food-stuffs for two months. The question of forage might be troublesome, but since the rains there has been some grazing within the British lines. There is no horse sickness. The casualties caused by our shell fire are increasing and the Boers are reported to be becoming nervous. They fear night sorties and constantly open a heavy fusillade on imaginary attacks."

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Pietermaritzburg, dated Dec. 23, says: "Every day reveals some new fact regarding the strength of the Boer position at Colenso. Thanks to the services of continental officers, the character of the campaign has changed. We are no longer fighting a foe who relies upon guerrilla tactics, but we have to deal with what is rapidly becoming a disciplined army, enjoying the advantages of knowing the country and of selecting the seats of contest without the burdens of cumbersome commissariat. The Boers have converted the hills near Colenso into fortresses of immense strength. Everywhere they have splendid trenches, many of them bombproof. Tramway lines permit the shifting of guns with astonishing rapidity. The main positions are connected with the outlying positions by underground passages and the forts proper bristle with machine guns that command the approaches. Probably mines are laid. One hears less nowadays about Boer shells not bursting. Observers of the Colenso fight say the Boer shell fire was very effective. This is due largely to the fact that the distances are marked off with white paint. The enemy's discipline is improving. The trenches represent great manual labor, for which the Boers have a deep dislike, and the way in which they restrained their fire when our troops were advancing is another proof of improved soldiering."

NEWS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

Exchange of Shots at Magersfontein--A False Alarm.

LONDON, Dec. 29, 4:40 a. m.—During the continued lull in the military operations in South Africa the papers are filled with letters and articles criticizing the government and the campaign and suggesting remedies, improvements and alterations in the plans and the like. The Times complains of "needless censorship and concealment." It cites the fact that nothing as yet has transpired to show how General Gatacre came to lose 600 men at Stormberg.

The dispatches from the front all represent the Boers as in a nervous condition and in constant dread of the British advance, but this is probably an exaggeration.

The Modder river correspondent of the Daily Chronicle gives an explanation of a sudden rifle fire inexplicably opened from the Boer trenches. He says: "The Boers have wires stretched along the ground in front of the trenches and connected with lamps. If a wire is touched a lamp is extinguished, thus giving warning. One night a high wind extinguished a lamp, which resulted in a false warning. The fire ceased when the Boers discovered that the alarm was false."

A correspondent of the Daily News at Frere Camp announces that a tramway is being constructed from the railway to a hill commanding the Boer position and that along this the British will convey heavy guns.

According to a dispatch from Ladysmith, dated Wednesday, Dec. 20, the heat there was intense, being 104 degrees Fahrenheit in the shade. There were many cases of enteric fever in the town at that time, but not enough to cause alarm. On the other hand, reports from Boer sources on the continent assert that typhoid fever is epidemic in Ladysmith.

The Transvaal government, according to information supplied by Boer sympathizers, threatens to "reduce the rations of British prisoners if Great Britain stops the entry of food by way of Delagoa bay."

The War Office has received the following from Cape Town, dated Dec. 27: "Methuen reports as follows: 'At 9:30 yesterday evening the Boers on the south side of Magersfontein opened a very heavy fire for some time. This morning the naval brigade fired at the enemy at the west part of Magersfontein. The cavalry brigade is reconnoitering in a northeasterly direction. Lieutenant Masters has made an extended reconnoissance eastward and northward of Easien and reports all well. The farmers were glad to see our men suffering from want of food.'

I have established a market here, where I can purchase fresh milk and vegetables, selling to the farmers tea and other articles which they cannot otherwise purchase. Heavy rain fell last night. Gatacre and French report no change in the situation. Baden-Powell reports all well Dec. 12."

According to a dispatch a man named Green, a former sergeant major of the British balloon department, is among the Boer prisoners captured at Magersfontein. Green, who deserted from Aldershot in 1883, admitted that he had been some time in the service of the Boers and had instructed them in trenching. He says there are twenty-three thousand Boers at Magersfontein, twenty-one thousand of whom were engaged the day of the battle. The Boer losses, he also asserts, were very heavy, the trenches being full of dead. Green further declares that if the attack had been pressed the Boers would have yielded. He says the Boer horses have to be taken to the Modder river, as water is so scarce at Magersfontein.

A dispatch from Durban, Natal, dated Dec. 27, says: "A German farmer named Stucke, and the Rev. Mr. Hartes, director of the Hanoverian missions in Natal, have been arrested and imprisoned at Estcourt on the charge of aiding the Boers. They both claim the protection of Germany."

The German officials have promptly stopped the Boers from recruiting in Darmanland. Neither men nor horses are permitted to cross the border.

The British government now evinces a marked change from its attitude in the early stages of the war and shows a disposition to accept assistance from any quarter. The Imperial Yeomanry committee has issued a statement to the effect that the government considers the formation and dispatch of Yeomanry as one of the most pressing needs of the situation and has intimated that it is now prepared to accept from eight thousand to ten thousand Yeomanry, instead of three thousand, as originally asked for. It is expected that the first contingent of one thousand will sail about the middle of January.

The government has announced that it will accept the services of a battery from the Honorable Artillery Corps. When the services were first offered, they were declined on the ground that the corps was not affiliated with any regiment of regulars. It will now be attached to the City Imperial Corps.

Lady Chesnut and Lady Georgiana Curzon have issued an appeal for public subscriptions to establish a field hospital for the Yeomanry. Cape Town dispatches complain of the inadequacy of the hospital arrangements.

It is now estimated that the war will cost at least £50,000,000 (\$300,000,000), and it is suggested that the sinking fund of the national debt should be suspended for five or six years in order to defray the cost.

An interesting feature of the day's news is the patriotic offers of service of Indian princes. The Nizam of Hyderabad, replying to a toast proposed by Lord Curzon, the viceroy, at a banquet in Calcutta, last evening, said the proudest title he possessed was that of being the Queen's faithful ally, adding that his purse, his army and his sword were ever at her disposal. The Maharajah of Gwalior has asked permission to serve on General Roberts's staff, and has offered to send troops, horses and a transport to South Africa.

The government of France has appointed Captain De Mante military attache at the Boer headquarters.

Mrs. Gretsans, in Athens, are offering their services to the British consul for the war in South Africa.

Mr. Henry Spenser Wilkinson, the Morning Post's military expert, in his review of the situation to-day, says: "The time has apparently arrived for the nation to insist, if not on a military dictatorship, at least upon the admission into the Cabinet of a military minister, empowered to veto any proposals detrimental to the successful prosecution of the war, and also that the army should be placed wholly in the hands of a tried military administrator."

TO PATROL THE ATLANTIC.

Great Britain May Search Vessels Supposed to Be Aiding the Boers.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—A special to the World from Halifax, N. S., says: Great Britain is apparently preparing to patrol the Atlantic coast in order to prevent the departure of the British North American and West Indies squadrons. The fact that the West Indies squadrons have received orders concerning the alleged violation of the neutrality laws by vessels leaving American ports with contraband of war seems to be well founded. One of the officials of the navy yard here when asked by a reporter if the two war vessels would be dispatched from the British North American squadron declared that he knew for an absolute certainty that communications touching upon the matter had been exchanged between Halifax and the commander of the fleet at the West Indies. Arrangements are being made, he said, for the dispatch of at least two vessels to do patrol duty on the south and north Atlantic coast. The cruisers will sail immediately after receipt of final orders.

BOERS TALKING COMPROMISE.

They Want \$100,000,000 Indemnity and Much Territory.

DURBAN, NATAL, Dec. 28.—Winston Churchill, on arriving here after his escape from the Boers, received a tremendous ovation. He says that from conversations with members of the Transvaal executive at Pretoria he learned that the Boers began the war with trepidation, but that President Kruger is now confident Great Britain will sue for peace.

In the highest Transvaal circles Mr. Churchill asserts, there is serious talk of a compromise, by which Great Britain would cede the territory now occupied by the armies of the two republics, pay an indemnity of £20,000,000 (\$100,000,000), and acknowledge the complete independence of the Transvaal.

CONSUL MACRUM'S FLIGHT.

His Reason for Leaving Pretoria Not Yet Known at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The case of Consul Charles Macrum, the United States representative at Pretoria, who insisted on being relieved at the time the South African crisis became most acute, is assuming additional importance as Mr. Macrum nears home. The understanding at the State Department is that he is not coming by way of the English ports, but is on a German ship, which comes through the Mediterranean and thence direct to this country, the trip taking about six weeks from Dec. 18, last, the date of his sailing from Lourenço Marques. In the present aspect of the case there is little doubt that unless the consul presents ample explanation for his course he will not be continued in the consular service. It has been reported that the consular secretary surrounding his departure is being investigated.

ONLY A RUMOR

BRITAIN AND GERMANY HAVE NOT AGREED TO PARTITION DELAGOA.

Report that a Secret Treaty Existed Regarding the Division of Portuguese Territory Not Credited.

BERLIN STORY RIDICULED

AS FANTASTIC AND LARGELY THE WORK OF A GUESSER.

Rumor that Great Britain Intends to Close Delagoa Bay, However, Has Not Been Denied.

HOLLANDER ACTING AS SPY

SECRET INFORMATION FURNISHED DR. LEYDS BY HERR POTT.

Seizure of American Flour by British Warships Referred to Our Agent at Lourenço Marques.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—A Berlin newspaper, the Lokal Anzeiger, has published the terms of an alleged secret treaty between Great Britain and Germany whereby, it is said, the two countries will divide Delagoa bay and other Portuguese territory in South Africa. The story is ridiculed here. A dispatch to the Times from Berlin says: "When it is remembered that two of Portugal's Asiatic possessions, Goa and Damao, form enclaves of the province of Bombay, the statements of the Lokal Anzeiger border on the fantastic." The Standard says that no credit should be given to the rumor from Berlin.

The St. James Gazette, in an editorial on the reported treaty, says it is a mere patchwork of previous reports, some partly true and some entirely false. The probability, it says, is as previously reported, the Portuguese possessions in South Africa, north and south of Zambesi, will ultimately be left to Great Britain and Germany, respectively.

A correspondent of the Standard at Lourenço Marques says: "Delagoa bay is the residence of Herr Pott, a Hollander, who is consul general for the Transvaal and consul for the Netherlands. He is the principal medium between the British and Dr. Leyds in Europe. His control in the Netherlands railway through the Transvaal is the head of the Dutch East Africa Company and has the ear of the Portuguese governor, as well as the chief of each department. It is openly asserted that Pott has a private wire to the frontier and knows twenty-four hours before others what is happening about him."

As Viewed in France. PARIS, Dec. 28.—The publication by the Lokal Anzeiger, of Berlin, of the secret treaty between Germany, Portugal and Great Britain, providing for the partition of the Portuguese colonies, meets with no credence in official circles here. A Foreign Office official said the advice from Portugal to the publication was largely invention. They could not believe Portugal would sign a treaty "stripping herself of her colonies, and so far-reaching and harmful to Portugal."

SEIZURE OF AMERICAN FLOUR.

The Case Referred to the Consular Agent at Lourenço Marques.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The ascertainment of the facts connected with the seizure of American flour by British warships off the coast of Portuguese East Africa, has been referred to the United States consular agent at Lourenço Marques. This office was detailed by Mr. Hollis to look after the affairs of the United States consulate at Lourenço Marques during the time he (Mr. Hollis) was discharging the duties of the United States consul at Pretoria. Mr. Hollis has reported to the State Department that the consular agent is a trusted and capable man, and may be trusted to look after American interests at Lourenço Marques. Under the instructions sent to him by Secretary Hay he will ascertain all the facts connected with the seizure of the flour and particularly the names of the persons to whom this flour was consigned and the actual ownership of the goods.

The Department of State is determined to do everything proper to maintain American rights in the matter of neutral trade in this case. So far, the department is in absolute ignorance of many essential facts regarding the seizures and cannot proceed to make any complaint until it has made sure of its ground. It does not even know that all of the flour was seized, as was at first reported, and there is reason to believe that the case of at least one consignment of flour not seized, but was simply diverted to another port than Lourenço Marques and there left, subject to the disposition of its owners. Although this may be also a breach of neutral privileges, it presents a different case entirely from a seizure outright.

To determine with accuracy all elements necessary to the preparation of a protest against a seizure of the kind reported recently consumes much time, and the State Department, following the usual course, cannot be expected to act otherwise than in the manner indicated. During our late war with Spain, wherever a seizure was made by our warships of a merchant vessel laden with supplies intended for Spanish ports, we politely informed foreign powers which undertook to protest that the seizure was a private matter between the State Department and the ship's owner. Yet in one of the cases growing out of the particular seizure it was nearly two years before the persons claiming to be aggrieved by the seizure were obliged to wait the usual and regular action of our prize courts. Thus, when a French ship was towed into Charleston, North Carolina, and the representation made by the French government, our government insisted in carrying out all the routine proceedings of a prize trial.

It is possible that the seizure of the flour was made by the British warships of a neutral cargo for contraband of war. These facts are set out by the officials of the State Department in an explanation of the reason why the department has not so far yielded to the clamor of a certain element of those who are clamoring for the release of those reported seizures off Delagoa bay.

CORNISH TELLS

THE STORY OF THE POISONING OF MRS. KATHERINE J. ADAMS.

Chief Witness Against Roland B. Molineux on the Witness Stand Yesterday Afternoon.

HIS TESTIMONY INTERESTING

HE IDENTIFIES THE BOTTLE THAT CONTAINED THE POISON,

Relates the Incidents Connected with Its Receipt by Mail and Its Disposition Soon Afterwards.

WAS GIVEN TO MRS. ROGERS

SHE MIXED A DOSE OF THE MEDICINE FOR HIS MOTHER,

Who Died in Agony Soon After Swallowing the Drug--Tasted by Cornish, Who Also Became Ill.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Intense interest is now lent to the trial of Roland B. Molineux because of the appearance on the witness stand of Harry S. Cornish, to whom the poison which killed Mrs. Adams was sent through the mails. Cornish was on the stand late this afternoon and his examination, which promises to develop many things not yet made public, will probably continue for several days with interruptions here and there for other witnesses. Cornish told to-day of the receipt by himself of the famous silver holder and bottle of poison and he reviewed the story of Mrs. Adams' death by the supposed "bromoseltzer" which he had administered to her when she was ill. Just as Cornish's testimony was beginning to be interesting the recorder adjourned the case until to-morrow.

The handwriting experts gave way to-day to the physicians. Dr. Phillips, who attended both H. S. Cornish before his death and Harry S. Cornish, was one of the witnesses examined and he attributed the illness of Cornish to mercurial poison and the death of Barnet to the same agent.

The name "Barnet" was not permitted to be received in the testimony or placed on the records, but a mythical "A. B." was adopted instead, and all the symptoms exhibited by Barnet during his illness were described by Dr. Phillips and accepted as testimony.

Dr. Coffin, who also attended these men during their illness, corroborated the testimony of Dr. Phillips as far as it related to the symptoms and endorsed the diagnosis made by that physician.

Another witness to-day was John E. Adams, one secretary of the Knickerbocker Athletic Club. His testimony dealt with the relations between Cornish and Molineux and with the various quarrels which had occurred at that club. Mr. Weeks will probably take up the cross-examination of Adams to-morrow before Cornish goes on the stand.

CORNISH'S TESTIMONY.

Cornish testified that he was thirty-nine years old. He told of having only a common school education during his younger days, but a business schooling, a term or two in the Physical Training School at Harvard and of having studied physical anatomy at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in this city. He stated that he was connected with the Chicago Athletic Club for two years and the Western Athletic Club for five years. He was shown several letters, all of which he identified as having been written by his own hand. These letters were offered in evidence by Mr. Osborne as standards of comparison. The letters admitted were nearly all pertaining to athletic matters and addressed to different people.

"I show you exhibit A, the poison package address, Mr. Cornish, and ask you if you wrote that?" said Mr. Osborne.

"I did not."

"Did you ever have a letter box at 1620 Broadway?"

"I did not."

"He was shown exhibits F, H, I, B and C. The disputed letters signed 'Barnet.' 'Did you write any of them?' he was asked.

"I did not."

"He said in December, 1898, he lived at No. 61 West Eighty-sixth street. Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Haworth, all sisters, were living at that address. He had known them in Hartford, where he formerly lived. On the 24th of December, 1898, he received a package through the mails. He got it in his mailbox at the Knickerbocker Athletic Club and opened it in his office at that club, between 10 and 11 o'clock. He identified exhibit A as a portion of the outside wrapper."

THE DEADLY BOTTLE.

When he tore off the wrapper he said he found a small holder, which he took at the time to be a silver toothpick holder. In another part of the box he found what purported to be a bottle of bromo-seltzer. He had previously thrown the wrapper into the waste basket. He found an envelope in the box and supposed it to contain a card, but there was none. He put the envelope, the bottle-holder and the bottle, which had a revenue stamp on it, in his desk. Later H. A. King came in and took the bottle of bromo-seltzer and started to take some of it, but did not. Others were in the office during the day and saw bottle, bottle-holder and portion of the wrapper. His desk was open the greater part of the day and in the evening Cornish said he took the bottle, bottle-holder and address home with him.

Cornish was then shown the poison bottle and the holder and identified them. Shortly after reaching home that evening, he said, Mrs. Adams came in. He showed the things to her, and they both commented on the similarity between the bottle-holder and some small toilet trinkets she had on her dressing case. He said he told Mrs. Adams he had no use for the holder and gave it to her, and that he was now positive that she put it on her dressing table. He put the supposed bromo-seltzer and the wrapper in his own desk in his room and left them there.

The next morning, while he was reading the paper, Mrs. Rogers came to his room, and told him that her mother was ill. Cornish said, and told him that her mother was ill; that she had a headache and wanted him to give her some bromo-seltzer. He said he gave the bottle to Mrs. Rogers, who took it out of the room. A moment later Mrs. Adams returned with the bottle and said she could not open it. Mr. Osborne here interposed:

"On yes, Cornish; I forgot to ask you if the bottle was sealed."

"It was," replied the witness, "sealed with paraffine wax."

THE FATAL DOSE.

Continuing his narrative, Cornish told of opening the bottle, while Mrs. Adams brought a glass for him to pour out a dose of the bromo-seltzer. He poured out what he termed a "good, big dose," and Mrs. Adams drank it, remarking at the time, Cornish testified, that it "tasted sour and queer."

"I told her," continued Cornish, "that the stuff was all right and took a dose of it myself, though may be not so large a dose as she did. She then went out, and I sat down and commenced reading my paper. It was not more than two or three minutes afterward that she cried out to me to come and help her. I jumped up and ran to where she stood in the dining room. At the time I had felt no effects of the stuff, but as soon as I got up my knees failed me. Just as I got to Mrs. Adams she fell to the floor. I stooped over and tried to lift her, but could not do it. She could hardly talk, and her face was drawn and ashy. I left her lying on the floor and ran to the hall and called to the hall boy to run for a doctor. Mrs. Rogers and I went to Mrs. Adams on the lounge and I went out to bury the boy, but found he had gone. Then I went over to a drug store at the corner of Eighty-sixth street and Columbus avenue. I told the druggist that somebody was sick and that I thought it was due to poison. He asked me what she had taken and I picked up a bromo-seltzer bottle and said it was like that. He said: 'Why, that's not poison; that's bromo-seltzer.' Then I asked him what to give Mrs. Adams, and he said he did not know; that he did not know what she had taken. Then I went back to the house."

"Hau the doctor come then?" asked Mr. Osborne.

"No," the doctor had not. The boy had got back and said he had asked Dr. Hitchcock to come and that he had said he would."

GEN. WOODBURY.

Visits Jails and Receives Many Calls--His Prospective Cabinet.

HAVANA, Dec. 28.—Gen. Wood's office is being visited daily by a crowd of office seekers from all parts of the island. The applicants want every thing or anything—from Cabinet secretariats to janitorship. Despite the fact that the Governor General receives on the average 200 people every twenty-four hours, he manages to find time to pay unexpected early morning visits to the asylums and jails. Gen. Wood prefers to take the managers of such institutions to-morrow he intends to inspect the Leprosy hospital. To-day he visited the Beneficencia. He does not intend to interfere in matters of public policy before the new year, when the Cabinet will be installed. It is generally reported by friends of the men named that Senator Villalon has been offered a Cabinet position. A similar statement is made concerning Senors Varona, Esteveza and Tamayo. Senor Villalon is the present chief of public works at Santa Clara. Senor Verona was formerly editor of the Patria. Senor Esteveza, is the president of the National party. Senor Tamayo is a judge of the Supreme Court. Most of these appointments if made would be met with public approval but Gen. Wood declines to confirm or deny in any case, asserting that he will not give out information on the subject until the entire Cabinet has been decided upon.

Several correspondents of American newspapers who have recently arrived here are much stirred up by wonderful stories published in the local papers regarding appointments, resignations, assassinations and other strange happenings. As a matter of fact, this is a sort of Cuban April fool day. It is the day of the innocents when lying is considered legitimate.

The barracks at Cienfuegos are to be converted into an orphan's home, and plans are being made to establish a school of hanging up workshops for the training of boys. A model cattle farm will be attached to the institution.

NURSE MADE A MISTAKE.

Hospital Sued by a Woman, Who Claims \$100,000 Damages.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Henrietta Phillips, of Racine, Wis., has entered suit in the Cook County Circuit Court against the Presbyterian Hospital for \$100,000 damages. She claims to have been made an invalid for life by the mistake of a nurse in giving her a dose of medicine intended for another patient. The hospital authorities admit that an error was made by one of the nurses, but declare that the medicine was harmless. Mrs. Phillips was sent to the hospital on Sept. 8 to be operated on for a tumor. The same day another woman was admitted to the hospital, and the two nurses gave each the medicine intended for the other.

MRS. WOODBURY FINED.

Found Guilty of Contempt of Court and Assessed \$50.

BOSTON, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Josephine Woodbury was adjudged guilty of contempt of court by Judge Braley in the Superior Court here to-day in connection with the case brought against her by Mrs. Mary Eddy, head of the Christian Science Church, for alleged criminal libel. Mrs. Woodbury was fined \$50, which she paid. The alleged contempt consisted in making public through a Boston newspaper the substance of her declaration in the suit against Mrs. Eddy and in causing to be published certain statements about the case in which she submitted to interviews where she made certain statements, knowing they would be published.

TO BE GARBOTED.

Porto Ricans Who Killed a Man and Forced His Daughters to Dance.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, Dec. 28.—The Supreme Court of Porto Rico, at Ponce, has sentenced five men to be garboted. In October, 1898, twenty men, heavily armed with guns and machetes, robbed a house at Yauco, province of Ponce, and murdered a man named Prudencio Mendez. They also danced around the body with his daughters, who were under compulsion. Seven of the men were caught, but subsequently one of the prisoners escaped and one died in jail.

AFTER A TRUST

PULLMAN COMPANY SHAREHOLDER ASKS FOR AN INJUNCTION.

He Opposes the Proposed Merging of the Wagner Concern Into the Great Illinois Corporation.

HE FEARS A MONOPOLY

THAT WILL CONTROL THE SLEEPING AND PARLOR-CAR BUSINESS,

And Says Millions Too Much Have Been Promised the Eastern Company for Its Good Will.

AFFAIRS OF HARPER & BROS.

STATEMENT PREPARED BY A COMMITTEE OF CREDITORS.

Close Economy Necessary if Debts Are to Be Paid--Business of the Squires Much Involved.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Objection to the proposed merging of the Wagner Palace-car Company into the Pullman Palace-car Company on the ground that it will create a trust in and a monopoly of the sleeping and parlor car business is made in a bill filed to-day in the Circuit Court by Truman A. Tyler, of Alton, Ill., one of the shareholders of the Pullman company. The complaint, after reciting in detail the acts of the directors and stockholders of both companies leading up to the proposed sale of the Wagner company to the Pullman company, asks that the injunction of the court issue to restrain the consummation of the proposed purchase until the hearing of the suit and until a hearing, that a perpetual order be entered, restraining the carrying out of the contemplated purchase or from issuing or delivering any of its stock to the Wagner company or any of its agents.

The bill of complaint states that the value of the property of the Wagner company, for which it is asserted stock of the Pullman company of a face value of \$30,000,000 and a market value of \$20,000,000 is to be exchanged, does not exceed the sum of \$10,000,000 and the difference between the actual value of the property and the amount which is to be paid represents what is to be paid by the Pullman company for the good will and the control of the Wagner company. The clauses of the bill of complaint relating to the basis of the suit that the proposed act which it declares has not been completed, will tend to create a trust.

"That the proposed purchase from the said Wagner Palace-car Company of all its property and good will is for the purpose of enabling said Pullman Palace-car Company to control the sleeping and parlor car business done on the various railroads and that said purchase, if consummated, will create a trust in and a monopoly of the sleeping car and parlor car business; that said purchase is in direct violation of the laws of the State of Illinois and that the purpose of said purchase is to enable said Pullman Palace-car Company to swallow up and absorb its only substantial competitor; that the said purchase will enable the said Pullman Palace-car Company to limit and reduce the operation and number of sleeping cars and parlor cars operated on the various railroads and enable it to regulate the rates to be charged for the use of the same and to prevent competition in the manufacture, operation and use of sleeping and parlor cars so as to prevent a free and unrestricted competition in violation of the statutes of the State of Illinois."

An application for the issuance of the injunction will be made in the next future.

HARPER & BROTHERS.

Statement Showing the Financial Condition of the Well-Known Firm.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—At the instance of creditors whose claims aggregate nearly half the entire indebtedness of Harper & Bros., a committee of five, of which Alexander B. Orr is chairman, has undertaken to prepare and submit to creditors a plan of reorganization. Preliminary to this task the committee has prepared a statement of facts, in which it is set out that the total liabilities of Harper & Bros. on Dec. 4, 1898, were \$3,683,000, diminished since the date named by the turning over of \$150,000 of bonds, which leaves the total indebtedness \$2,993,000. The secured indebtedness is \$1,001,000, consisting of notes, an open account and a mortgage of \$300,000 secured by bonds and real estate. The unsecured indebtedness comprises commercial paper and open accounts.

In 1896 the corporation mortgaged property to secure \$3,000,000 of 5 per cent. 100 year gold bonds. Of this amount \$2,645,000 stands as collateral as referred to. The remainder of the issued bonds \$355,000, are outstanding and controlled by the committee for the purposes of reorganization. The mortgage represented by the bonds covers the property of the corporation except the cash on hand, bills receivable, supplies, car and engine equipment, the net asset—good will and patents, estimated at \$900,000 value, and deducting the bond and mortgage, \$640,000 remains against the outstanding bonded indebtedness of \$2,645,000, or 26 per cent. of their par value.

The estimated net available assets, not covered by mortgage, to meet unsecured claims, are substantially \$125,000. The liabilities, in excess of bonded indebtedness, is placed at \$1,992,000 and many bills payable, general credits, drafts, subscriptions, advertising and unexpired subscriptions, leaving net available assets equal to 2.5 per cent. of net available liabilities, exclusive of cost of receivership and liquidation.

The committee regards the above estimate of value of assets, except as a going concern, to be very excessive. All of the assets covered by the probable excess of unsecured creditors, because, in the committee's judgment, the property covered by the mortgage would not realize under foreclosure sale more than enough to satisfy the secured claims. Therefore, the committee concludes, if the corporation is not continued as a going concern, the un-

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