



THE ADVANCE IN NATAL.

BRITISH CAMPAIGN OPENS IN EARNEST.

BOERS FORCED FROM STRONG POSITIONS—ACTION NEAR DUNDEE—MAFEKING REPORTED RELIEVED.

[Copyright, 1900, by The New York Tribune.] [BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.]

London, May 15, 6 a. m.—No official news has yet been received with regard to Sir Redvers Buller's move in Natal, and the accounts from correspondents at the front leave a good deal to the imagination. A telegram to "The News" says that operations were completely successful, but it must for the present remain doubtful whether the Boer force that was defeated was a formidable body or merely a rear guard contingent left to observe General Buller's movements after the main army had withdrawn. It does not appear from any report yet to hand that General Buller had more than a portion of his force with him.

"The Express" correspondent in Cape Town says that Mafeking was probably relieved on Sunday or yesterday, but owing to delays in communication the news can hardly arrive in London before to-morrow. Definite intelligence as to the situation of the garrison and the progress of the relief column is, however, altogether lacking.

The situation in the Free State is apparently unchanged, but General Buller appears to be clearing the district east of Thaba Nchu, where the Boer forces have not yet proved formidable. Cecil Rhodes sailed from Cape Town yesterday for Beira.

DUNDEE PROBABLY TAKEN.

BULLER'S ARMY DRIVES BOERS FROM BIGGARSBERG RANGE.

[Copyright, 1900, by The New York Tribune.] [BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.]

London, May 15, 1 a. m.—Sir Redvers Buller's army has been in motion since Thursday and has succeeded in turning the Boer positions on the Biggarsberg range. His three divisions have encamped since the relief of Ladysmith east, west and south of the scene of the prolonged siege, with the cavalry corps at Acton Homes on one flank and at Wessels Nek, beyond Elandsplaagte, on the other side, and with the reserves at Pieter's Drift and Colenso. The Boers have held the Biggarsberg range, or the series of mountain spurs running from Tintwa Pass toward Helpmakaar. These spurs are over 4,000 feet at the highest points, and the defensive positions selected by the Boers served the double purpose of blocking the British advance northward toward Glencoe and Lains' Nek, and of preventing a passage over the Buffalo River at Rorke's Drift, and the invasion of the Vryheid District of the Transvaal.

Sir Redvers Buller, by stationing one division at Elandsplaagte, has seemed to be bent upon following the railway northward, although the armchair strategists in London have persisted in sending him westward across the Drakensberg Hills through Van Reenen's Pass into the Free State, to co-operate with Lord Roberts. His advance has been neither north nor west, but toward Helpmakaar, and in turning the Biggarsberg positions he has secured control of the road leading across Rorke's Drift toward Vryheid and Utrecht.

The details of this movement are confused. The British advance began on Thursday, and was directed against Helpmakaar, where an attack was made on Sunday, after a long march. There was a heavy artillery fire on both sides, and the mounted men and infantry worked around on the enemy's flank while Bethune's Horse came up from the Greytown road as far as Pomeroy. Helpmakaar does not appear to have been held by a strong Boer force, and the southernmost position on the Biggarsberg range was easily taken.

DUTCH POSITIONS EVACUATED. Correspondents telegraphing yesterday were profuse in their admiration of the brilliancy of General Buller's manoeuvres, but exceedingly frugal in their explanations of the scope and nature of the proceedings. The effect of the turning movement was described as a complete emptying of the Boer defensive positions on the Biggarsberg, upon which an enormous amount of labor had been expended.

The occupation of Dundee, where the first battle of the war was fought, is confidently expected, but a more important result will be the command of the road to Rorke's Drift and Vryheid. This will secure an entrance into the Transvaal, by which a turning force can be sent north to cut off the Boer retreat from Lains' Nek, and compel the evacuation of Natal by the Dutch forces. The War Office was silent at midnight, but I received a semi-official assurance that General Buller's movement had been completely successful, and that Dundee had probably been occupied on Monday.

The situation at Kroonstad has remained unchanged. Lord Roberts's new bulletins relate to a white flag outrage and to a correspondence with President Kruger respecting the treatment of the original prisoners. There is no evidence that the Dutch force at Kroonstad exceeded 8,000 men, nor is it probable that the passage of the Vaal River will be contested by more than fifteen thousand Boers. The Free State burghers in front of General Buller's division are still falling back.

MAFEKING CAMPAIGN SECRET. News of the relief of Mafeking is expected in the course of a few days. George Wyndham intimated in the House of Commons yesterday that the garrison might already have been rescued, but the mounted force which was reported at Vryheid at the middle of last week can hardly be expected to reach Mafeking before May 18, even if un molested by the Boers. This movement has been jealously guarded as an official secret, too important even to be whispered, but the authorities in Pall Mall certainly expect that the siege will be raised by the end of the week.

Mr. Chamberlain's speech on the Australian Commonwealth bill yesterday was a masterly performance. He was eloquent and sympathetic, respecting ninety-nine points on which there was no difference of opinion, and minimized with tact and skill the hundredth point, on which the Imperial Government considers an amendment necessary. It was an adroit appeal to the Australian Premier not to weaken even the small link binding the colonies to the mother country, but to enable Mr. Barton and the other delegates to follow the advice of the judiciary

and accept the amendment relating to a court of appeal for the Empire, on which every colony will be represented by a life peer. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and Sir Charles Dilke indicated plainly the sympathy of the Liberals with Mr. Barton, and the Government amendment is likely to be converted into a party issue. I. N. F.

RETIRING BEFORE BULLER. INDOBA FALLS INTO HILDYARD'S HANDS—END OF WAR EXPECTED SOON.

London, May 15.—General Buller's turning of the Biggarsberg position was effected by a bold movement. The Boers had evacuated Helpmakaar, but were making a stand Monday evening at Bleskoplaagte, seven miles from Dundee. The correspondent on the spot regarded this as a rear-guard action intended to cover the retreat of the army.

At the same time General Hildyard took Indoba, and it is reported that the Boers withdrew in disorder. General Buller, who seems to be employing his full strength, is expected to push on. His first marches were forty-five miles in three days. He is thus breaking into British territory which had been administered for six months by the Transvaal leaders as though it were part of the republic, they holding courts and levying taxes. His success, therefore, has political as well as military consequences.

While Lord Roberts's infantry are concentrating at Kroonstad, where they will rest for a day or two, his horsemen have penetrated eighteen miles northward. In the squadron which cut the railway fifteen miles beyond Kroonstad was the American scout, Frederick Burnham. Two hundred Boers who had hidden in the river jungles near Kroonstad to escape service have surrendered to the British and taken the oath of allegiance.

According to a dispatch from Bennet Buriel to "The Daily Telegraph," dated May 10, Paul Botha and Macdonald, members of the Free State Volksraad, demanded that the chairman should call a meeting to sue for peace, as further resistance was suicidal, and proposed to make President Steyn a prisoner.

Nothing definite has been heard about the expected relief of Mafeking. The Cape Town correspondents continue to telegraph that relief is imminent, fixing Tuesday or Wednesday as probable dates. Inquirers at the War Office are told that the news of the relief will be made public immediately upon its receipt.

The latest supposition concerning General Buller is that possibly he is marching up the north bank of the Vaal with a force sufficient, in co-operation with Lord Roberts, to render a Boer defence of the Vaal frontier impracticable. East of Bloemfontein General Buller is advancing toward Ladybrand. His troops and those of General Brabant are stretched over a distance of thirty miles. The Boers are described as disorganized and as retreating northward. President Steyn's lieutenants are trying to rally them.

Nearly every point where the English correspondents are, Mr. Hellawell, formerly a correspondent at Mafeking, who was put over the Transvaal border, telegraphing from Lourenço Marques on Sunday, says:

Judging from talks I have had with the Boers, the end of the war will come in a month or six weeks. Mr. Steinkamp, chairman of the Second Raad, who travelled with me, said that if the burghers were pressed from Pretoria they would retire to the district of the Lydenburg Mountains, which had already been provisioned. He remarked that he hoped the burghers would stand firm, but he feared they were too broken in spirit.

I gathered from him that the whole available force of the Transvaal was now in the field, the final commander-in-chief having taken place last Thursday, and that it is only the powerful magnetism of President Kruger that keeps the burghers together.

At the British hospitals in Bloemfontein the deaths from enteric fever average from eight to ten daily.

EIGHTH DIVISION ADVANCES. BRABANT AND GRENFELL CAPTURE STORES—DUTCH FALLING BACK.

Thaba Nchu, May 13.—The Eighth Division, with its front extending thirty miles, was yesterday moving forward. General Grenfell and General Brabant followed the Boers, reaching Newberry's Mills, and capturing great quantities of flour and grain. General Brabant's main force, with Campbell's brigade of Guards and General Boyes's brigade, have cleared the country.

The Boers are splitting up and retiring in the direction of Clocoland.

WAR NEWS FROM PRETORIA. ANOTHER ATTACK ON MAFEKING—WOMEN WISH TO SERVE GOVERNMENT.

Pretoria, May 12.—A war bulletin has been issued here announcing that the British are advancing against the Federals at Helpmakaar and Tonder's Nek.

The burghers this morning attacked Mafeking. The telegraph operator at Malopo says that a heavy rifle and cannon fire was heard before 6 o'clock to-day, and that the "Kaffir location" was in flames within an hour and was totally destroyed. At 10 o'clock, he adds, everything was quiet.

At a meeting of 350 Afrikaner women held yesterday it was resolved to ask the Government for arms and ammunition, and to suggest that they do the work of the male officials in the town, who they declared, "ought to be fighting at the front." The resolution was carried unanimously.

The "Volksstem" asserts that the British prisoners in the hands of the Boers will first feel the effects of the embargo placed on tinned meats and clothing destined for the Transvaal, at Delagoa Bay.

COOMASSIE GARRISON SAFE.

Accra, May 14.—Runners who arrived here today report that Coomassie is still closely invested by the Ashantees, but that the garrison is holding out.

The Adasi, neighboring tribes, threaten the Bekwais, who are loyal to the Government.

REPORT ON ABUSE OF WHITE FLAG.

London, May 14.—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts:

Kroonstad, May 13.—There were more casualties in the cavalry division, May 10, than reported by me. I have been unable to get an exact account of what occurred, as the commanding officer, Captain Elsworth, was killed and two officers were wounded at the same time, and have been sent to the rear, but it would appear that a party of our men going up to a knoll on which a white flag was flying was suddenly attacked by a large number of the enemy. Two officers—Captains Hays and the 6th Dragoon, and Lieutenant Wilkinson, of the Australian Horse—were made prisoners and twenty-one men are still unaccounted for. Some of them may have turned up, as the cavalry covered a

Continued on seventh page.

COLUMBUS, CINCINNATI, INDIANAPOLIS, ST. LOUIS. Are all served by splendid trains over the New York Central, Lake Shore and Big Four. Call on New York Central Ticket Agent and get particulars.—Adv't.



CORPORATION COUNSEL WHALEN, WITH HIS COAT AND HAT OFF, BREAKING GROUND FOR THE RAPID TRANSIT WORK.

MAY SUSPEND RATHBONE.

THE FOURTH ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL ORDERED TO CUBA.

TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE INVESTIGATION INTO POSTAL FRAUDS.

Washington, May 14.—The Postmaster-General, after a protracted interview with the President to-day, announced that Joseph L. Bristow, the Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General, will proceed to Havana next Wednesday to take charge of the postal affairs of Cuba. The Postmaster-General declined to say whether or not the Director-General of Posts, Mr. Rathbone, would be suspended. It is said, however, that the fact that Mr. Bristow will assume these duties does not necessarily indicate that Mr. Rathbone will be relieved of all connection with the service. Mr. Bristow outranks the Director of Posts, and the latter might operate as a subordinate, though on this point no statement is vouchsafed. The letter directing the Fourth Assistant to proceed to Cuba is dated May 12.

Mr. Bristow will remain in Cuba throughout the pending investigation and probably until the service is reorganized. He would in any event have supervision of the inspectors conducting the examination of postal affairs in Cuba, and his transfer to Havana will bring him into closer touch with their operations.

Further than the announcement that Mr. Bristow would go to Havana, the Postmaster-General said there were no new developments in the situation. He said that there had not been an intimation that there had been any wrongdoing in the postal affairs of either the Philippine Islands or Porto Rico. In Porto Rico the Director of Posts, Captain Elliott, was a retired naval officer. He had no experience in postal affairs, and it was feared that he might make serious mistakes, but the entire system was conducted in an exemplary manner. In Cuba the management had been in the hands of an expert postoffice employe, and it was supposed there could be nothing wrong there. The situation in Porto Rico and Cuba, up to the beginning of this month, was precisely the same, but in the case of the former both the Military and Postal authorities are new.

Mr. Bristow was appointed Fourth Assistant at the beginning of the present Administration. He is a native of Kentucky, but for many years lived in Kansas, from which State he was appointed postoffice inspector in 1892. He has done postal work, and for a time was private secretary to Governor Morrill of Kansas. The chief clerk, Merritt O. Chance, will be acting Fourth Assistant in the absence of Mr. Bristow. Respectful rumors that similar irregularities to those developed in Cuba have occurred in the other insular possessions over which military jurisdiction is exercised, were positively declared positively at the War Department, that while the inspectors have been working constantly to improve the administrative service, they have not found a single case involving moral turpitude.

HAVANA'S POSTMASTER REMOVED. MORE ARRESTS ARE LIKELY TO FOLLOW INVESTIGATION OF THE SERVICE.

Havana, May 14.—The extent of the postal frauds is far greater than originally expected. The frauds seem to include the local office at Havana and other offices in the island, and also outside places which have been used for the sale of some of the old issue of stamps that were ordered destroyed.

The result of the investigation at the local postoffice is the suspension of Postmaster Thompson, who was installed in April of last year. He will remain at his own house for the present. Mr. Sheridan will fill his place for the present. Moysa and Mascaro, stamp sellers in the main office, have also been arrested, and further arrests are expected. As many as six others have been placed under the closest supervision, and they will be arrested as soon as their services can be spared.

Messrs. Hovey and Reynolds, the auditors of the Postal Department, are still under arrest at their own rooms, in charge of detectives. Special quarters will, however, be prepared in some fortress, where all the prisoners connected with the frauds will be taken as soon as arrested.

E. G. Rathbone desires to say that there is no truth in the report, circulated in the United States, that there is friction between the military authorities here and the Postal Department, and that, on the contrary, the most complete harmony prevails between General Wood and Roosevelt in regard to the hearing which is being held. He also says he does not consider it proper in the present circumstances to give out interviews for publication. It appears that the frauds ramified in almost every possible direction, even the rented boxes having been made a source of illegitimate gain. The Cubans seem to be pleased at the news. They declare that the Americans can no longer boast of superior honesty in Government employes.

REQUISITION PAPERS FOR NEELY HERE.

In speaking of the requisition for the extradition of Charles E. Neely, the chief of the finance division of the Postoffice Department of Cuba, who is accused of embezzlement, and is out on bail, United States District Attorney Burnett said yesterday:

I have received the requisition papers from Washington, and have communicated with Governor Wood, and have communicated with the local authorities. The matter will be hurried, and I presume the hearing will be held here. The papers do not differ from other requisitions issued for extradition to Cuba. The papers include the request of Governor Wood and a copy of the proceedings in Havana.

CENTRALLY LOCATED. New West 23d Street Station, Pennsylvania Railroad. Phone call for Penna. R. R. Cab, 214-11th Street.—Adv't.

WHALEN BEGINS TUNNEL.

CORPORATION COUNSEL DOES FIRST REAL WORK ON THE EXCAVATION.

CEREMONIOUS START IN THE PRESENCE OF A THROUNG OF PEOPLE—WORKMEN WILL BE PUT ON TO-DAY.

With salvoes of artillery, to the accompaniment of the singing of patriotic airs by nearly a thousand school children, and amid the enthusiastic cheers of more than two thousand residents of the northern part of the city, actual excavation upon the rapid transit subway was begun yesterday afternoon. At a spot almost exactly in the center of the roadway at the junction of One-hundred-and-fifty-sixth-st. and Broadway the first pick was sunk in the tunnel excavation proper. Within the next few days work will be similarly started upon other sections of the subway, but to Washington Heights was given the honor of opening ground for the tunnel. The people of Washington Heights for several days had been preparing to celebrate the event. In more ways than one it was an occasion of felicitation for them. It was not only that upon the section running through their district the real beginning of the tunnel was made, but it marked the consummation of the efforts to make Washington Heights an immediate sharer in the benefits of rapid transit, and was a happy augury of the possible success of the agitation that is being instituted for the extension of the four track system beyond One-hundred-and-fourth-st.

Not only did the residents of the district take part in the ceremonies, but a large number of high officials of the municipal government and citizens of prominence attended. For their transportation the Police Department placed at the disposal of Newell Martin and Thomas F. McAvoy the police boat Patrol. Loaded almost to the gunwale with guests, the Patrol left Pier A, at the Battery, shortly after 2:30 p. m., and after calling at the Atlantic Transport Line Pier to take aboard Police Commissioners York, Sexton and Abel and Chief Devery, the steamer reached the landing at One-hundred-and-fifty-fifth-st. soon after 4 o'clock. Waiting upon the pier to receive the guests was a crowd of several hundred people, the band of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum and a platoon of police. As the Patrol touched the landing a detachment of the Louis Wenzel Battery, which was stationed on the hill with two cannon, began firing a salute of seventeen guns, which was returned by the two 1-pounders on the police boat. Forming into procession the visitors, headed by the asylum band and the police, and joined when the summit of the hill at One-hundred-and-fifty-fifth-st. was attained by the battery, marched to the place where it had been arranged to break ground. A stand had been erected at One-hundred-and-fifty-seventh-st. for the speakers, and around this were grouped more than seven hundred children from School No. 46. Outside the cordon formed by the police, who were commanded by Inspector Kane, was a multitude of fully two thousand persons, who throughout took the liveliest interest in the proceedings. The houses of the neighborhood were all decorated with colored streamers and flags.

When the guests had taken their places in the stand the school children, to the accompaniment of the asylum band, sang "The Star Spangled Banner" and "Columbia."

Then Newell Martin introduced as the first speaker of the afternoon William Barclay Parsons, the chief engineer of the Rapid Transit Commission. Mr. Parsons confined himself to expressing the hope that the work which had been so auspiciously begun that day would be pushed to a speedy end. He was followed by Corporation Counsel Whalen, who on behalf of the people of Washington Heights thanked the Rapid Transit Commissioners and the contracting company for the compliment which they had paid to the district. Mr. Whalen spoke of the success which had attended the efforts to induce the Commissioners to extend the rapid transit route to Washington Heights. "While the Commissioners have stopped the four-track system at One-hundred-and-fourth-st., Whalen added, "I am sure that when their chief engineer reports to them the large number of people congregated here to-day, and the general enthusiasm that has been shown, they will not hesitate to give Washington Heights a four-track system."

John B. McDonald, the contractor, promised that the work of building the tunnel should be carried to completion without delay, and James J. Coogan, president of the Borough, looked upon the beginning of the subway as the crowning work of the Tammany administration. He had some kind things to say of Mr. McDonald and those who were associated with him in the company formed for the construction of the subway.

The speeches over, the procession was re-formed, and marched with Mr. Whalen at its head, to the spot where the first hole was to be dug in the ground. Diving himself of hat and coat, Mr. Whalen swung a heavy iron pick that was handed to him by L. B. McCabe, the subcontractor for the section, and for a moment or two dug away with an energy that started the perspiration at every pore. When he showed signs of desisting he was urged on again by the humorous clamoring of the bystanders, and it was not until a fairly large circle of earth had been loosened that he was allowed to relinquish the pick. With a miniature silver spade the silver loving cup which was recently presented to Mr. Whalen was filled with the

newly disturbed earth and will be retained by the Corporation Council as a souvenir.

Subsequently the guests were entertained by George Bird Grinnell and Newell Martin at the Hemlocks, Audubon Park. One-hundred-and-fifty-sixth-st. and Broadway. To-day a large force of men will start excavating the tunnel in earnest. Among those who were present at the ceremonies were:

Commissioner John J. Cavanaugh, Charles Sooy-smith, William Leary, Edward H. Sheehan, J. C. Rodgers, Moses M. McKee, Edward M. Morgan, Julius M. Mayer, Herman B. Wilson, William Whitehead, Major John W. Fisher, Edward P. Davenport, Thomas Alexander, Collin H. Woodward, Jacob D. Butler, David Stewart, Henry J. Kottman, Francis J. Worcester, Charles W. Stewart, J. Romayne Brown, John P. Leo, Martin K. Sherwin, Dr. E. J. Lederer, W. E. East, Winston H. Shaw, E. T. Sevard, William Stillaber, Samuel Isham, Charles Robinson Smith, Louis Dean Speer, Comte de Wierzbicki, Joseph B. Corning, Daniel B. Freedman, Charles W. Thom, F. C. Elder, J. R. Taylor, D. J. Dwyer, J. P. Butler, Henry H. Bates, Philip H. Eusebio, V. A. Seegerman, William F. Weeks, William Milne Grinnell, Dr. Morton Grinnell, George Bird Grinnell, John Callahan, Joseph H. Edgar, D. Farrell, Dennis J. Dwyer, Charles L. Guy, Bartholomew Moryahan, Charles A. Ferran, Joseph J. Goulden, Newell M. Martin, A. Van Pelt, Daniel F. Mahony, Meacomb George Foster and John Markle.

BUY YOUR LACES AT O'NEILL'S. A Special Sale beginning to-day and to last until Thursday. See their Advertisement, 6th Ave., 20th St. to 21st St.—Adv't.

newly disturbed earth and will be retained by the Corporation Council as a souvenir.

Subsequently the guests were entertained by George Bird Grinnell and Newell Martin at the Hemlocks, Audubon Park. One-hundred-and-fifty-sixth-st. and Broadway.

To-day a large force of men will start excavating the tunnel in earnest. Among those who were present at the ceremonies were:

Commissioner John J. Cavanaugh, Charles Sooy-smith, William Leary, Edward H. Sheehan, J. C. Rodgers, Moses M. McKee, Edward M. Morgan, Julius M. Mayer, Herman B. Wilson, William Whitehead, Major John W. Fisher, Edward P. Davenport, Thomas Alexander, Collin H. Woodward, Jacob D. Butler, David Stewart, Henry J. Kottman, Francis J. Worcester, Charles W. Stewart, J. Romayne Brown, John P. Leo, Martin K. Sherwin, Dr. E. J. Lederer, W. E. East, Winston H. Shaw, E. T. Sevard, William Stillaber, Samuel Isham, Charles Robinson Smith, Louis Dean Speer, Comte de Wierzbicki, Joseph B. Corning, Daniel B. Freedman, Charles W. Thom, F. C. Elder, J. R. Taylor, D. J. Dwyer, J. P. Butler, Henry H. Bates, Philip H. Eusebio, V. A. Seegerman, William F. Weeks, William Milne Grinnell, Dr. Morton Grinnell, George Bird Grinnell, John Callahan, Joseph H. Edgar, D. Farrell, Dennis J. Dwyer, Charles L. Guy, Bartholomew Moryahan, Charles A. Ferran, Joseph J. Goulden, Newell M. Martin, A. Van Pelt, Daniel F. Mahony, Meacomb George Foster and John Markle.

MRS. SCHLEY'S ESTATE.

THE WILL LIKELY TO SHOW THAT IT WAS FAR LARGER THAN FRIENDS SUPPOSED. Frederick S. Flower, of this city, is on his way home from Europe, having been summoned back on account of the death of Mrs. Emma Keep Schley, at her home, No. 601 Fifth-ave., on Thursday last. Mr. Flower is the executor of the will of Mrs. Schley, and it will not be read until he is on hand to do it.

Those in position to know are confident that the size of the estate left by Mrs. Schley will surprise even those who had long regarded her as an unusually wealthy woman. Brokers familiar with the affairs of the late Roswell P. Flower, who was a brother-in-law of Mrs. Schley, and managed her estate, assert that there is little doubt that the estate amounts to nearly \$100,000.

Mrs. Schley was the widow of Henry Keep, who was for several years president of the New York Central Railroad before the control of that property passed to the Vanderbilts. He was a remarkably successful business man, and continued to amass wealth after he had disposed of part of his holdings in the Central. After his death in 1863, in this city, Mrs. Keep, in 1876, married Judge Schley, of Savannah, who died in the early eighties. Under the management of ex-Governor Flower the Keep estate is said to have tripled.

Nothing definite is obtainable with reference to this disposition of the estate, but it is probable that practically all of it will go to Mrs. Schley's only child, Mrs. Frederick R. Halsey, of No. 13 West Fifty-third-st. It would not surprise the friends of the family if the will showed that Mrs. Schley had turned over a great deal of her estate to Mrs. Halsey during her lifetime. Mrs. Schley, shortly after the death of her first husband, gave to the New York Ophthalmic Hospital in East Twenty-third-st., \$100,000, a single gift, and followed this later with many smaller gifts. It is understood that her benefactions to this institution reached nearly if not quite \$200,000 during her lifetime, while she ended her days in the Home for Old Ladies in Watertown, her native place. The friends of the hospital apparently never had any assurance from Mrs. Schley that she would remember the institution in her will, but it would not surprise the hospital people if the will contained a bequest.

Mr. and Mrs. Halsey during the last year have been building a large and handsome brownstone house in West Fifty-third-st., opposite No. 13. The new house occupies the site of two ordinary houses, and has a frontage of fifty feet, with a height of four stories. Mr. and Mrs. Halsey have watched all the work on this new dwelling, from the lowest foundation stone. Builders who have looked over the plans say that for a house of the city will be more complete or comfortable.

The kitchen and laundry are a delight to the builders of homes for the wealthy, the walls of these large rooms being highly polished white marble, while the floors are costly mosaic. Last Thanksgiving Day Mrs. Halsey sent word to the men at work in the house that they need not bring their luncheon that day, as she intended to provide it. A prominent contractor took entire charge, and gave the fifty-six workmen a royal feast. Not knowing exactly whom to thank, a delegation of the men waited on Mr. Halsey. He stopped the foreman's speech, and laughing, assured him that he was not the right one at all, as Mrs. Halsey had planned everything.

SMALLPOX CASES IN CANADA.

Montreal, May 13 (Special).—The first death from smallpox occurred here in the City Hospital this morning. Three other patients are inmates of the hospital, and several dozen people who have been exposed to infection are under quarantine. The disease was probably brought here by a visitor from Rossland, who fell ill at a hotel here. Three attendants of the hotel who were brought in contact with him were taken sick from the disease, and one of these has now died. The Health Board has taken stringent precautions.

CLEVELAND A SUBURB OF NEW-YORK.

Leave New-York 5:30 p. m., arrive Cleveland next morning for breakfast, by Lake Shore Limited of New-York Central. Superb service; no excess fare. Adv't.

EGAN ATTACKS VAN SICLEN

TWO COMMITTEES TO WELCOME THE BOERS MUCH AT VARIANCE.

UPROAR AT THE MEETING TO ARRANGE FOR THE RECEPTION—CHARGES AND COUNTERCHARGES MADE.

Twice within an hour last night at the Hotel Manhattan the Citizens' Reception Committee to welcome the South African delegates was in an uproar on account of charges and countercharges made by Patrick Egan, ex-United States Minister to Chili, and George W. Van Siclen, one of the original Boer sympathizers in this city. The meeting was hardly begun before Mr. Egan found occasion to denounce Mr. Van Siclen. Briefly, Mr. Wessells, the Boer envoy en route to this country, wrote to his brother, temporarily in this city, to engage rooms for the visiting envoys. Mr. Wessells showed the letter to Mr. Van Siclen, and quarters were engaged at the Hoffman House at 816 a day. Soon afterward a citizens' committee was organized at the Hotel Manhattan, with Killian Van Rensselaer as chairman. But in some way, not as yet explained, a committee, with Mr. Van Siclen as its supposed sponsor, was appointed. This mixed things up in the newspapers, so that few subscriptions were received by Mr. Van Rensselaer's committee. As soon as the Citizens' Committee was called to order by Mr. Van Rensselaer rumblings and mutterings against Mr. Van Siclen were heard among the Irish members. Some one mentioned that there was a great deal of confusion existing in the public mind with reference to what was going to be done. Mr. Egan got the floor and said:

Mr. Chairman: As a member of the regularly appointed Citizens' Committee, I want to say that I never have held any communication with fakirs, and never have had any communication with any committee. His committee is only on paper. He's the secretary, chairman, treasurer and the whole thing. I got my committee-at-large scattered all over the United States.

This set the ball rolling, and Alderman Spellay said that Mr. Van Siclen should be careful what he does. This was before Mr. Van Siclen had arrived. Pretty soon he arrived, and bowed and smiled blandly to those present. He got what is popularly styled "the frozen face" from the Irish members.

Patrick Gallagher, a contractor and a mild mannered man, got the floor and said that, while he was not looking for trouble, he would like an explanation from Mr. Van Siclen. He said that if he were in such a bad light as Mr. Van Siclen appeared to be, he would gladly improve the opportunity to set himself right.

Mr. Van Siclen rose to explain, but Mr. Egan got the floor ahead of him and broke out with: "The whole city is being flooded with these circulars being sent out by Mr. Van Siclen. He hasn't got any committee, and he knows he hasn't. He's using the names of prominent business men and bank cashiers."

Mr. Van Siclen—"You'd better find out the facts, sir, before you make such reckless statements."

Mr. Egan—"I'm stating the facts; every one knows."

Mr. Van Siclen—"You'd better find out just where you stand before you make such reckless charges. I'll hold you responsible for what you say."

Chairman Van Rensselaer—Now, gentlemen, let this be a fraternal gathering. We are all American citizens and loyal to the Boer cause. We ought to—

Mr. Van Siclen (breaking in angrily)—It's my turn, and I want to say that Mr. Gallagher's statements are entirely erroneous. It annoyed me to see statements to the effect that Mr. Van Siclen was going to do this and that. I did not authorize the statements and I don't know where they came to be printed. Mr. Egan is mistaken in his facts. What I do is none of your business, Mr. Egan. You would have known more about it all if I had known your postoffice address, but I don't. My committee is made up of excellent gentlemen, proud to serve on the committee, and who they are is none of your business, Mr. Egan. This is all damned trash—this talk!

Then Paul F. Hoppe, a manufacturer of steam pressure gauges, chairman of the German Press Committee, let loose his safety valve and turned the scalding steam of criticism on Mr. Van Siclen.

"I wish I could speak some good English like I can Sherman," said Mr. Hoppe, getting angry and becoming more and more excited. He has mixed up Dr. Sherman press, so I don't know vadder I'm afoot or a backhorse."

It took Mr. Hoppe five minutes to cool off, and he and Mr. Van Siclen engaged in a verbal war, where Mr. Van Siclen shook his fist threateningly at the back of Mr. Hoppe's head.

Alderman Kennedy, who kept his head throughout, tried to straighten matters out, as follows: Theodore M. Banta, the treasurer of the Citizens' Committee.

After the air had cleared somewhat a Tribune reporter obtained the following statement, which is said to be correct:

The Managers, with Messrs. Fischer, Wolfmann and Wessells, Boer envoys, is expected to reach this port this morning. The following sub-committee of the Executive Committee will go down on the revenue cutter to meet them: Killian Van Rensselaer, ex-Judge George N. Kenyon, Alderman Kennedy, Commissioner Sheehy, George W. Van Siclen, Theodore M. Banta, Councilman Oakley, Montagu White and P. Lottner Wessells.

The wishes of the delegates will to-day be learned with reference to being received at the City Hall, where an address and the freedom of the city will be presented to them. The address will be engrossed and ornamented with ribbons. The committee to arrange for badges made a mistake in ordering them, and the colors are not in the right order. The red should be at the top, with the white and blue following. The badge for to-day have the blue at the top, with the red at the bottom.