

MORE ACTION AT WEPENER

Heavy Cannonading Renewed by the Boer Commandos.

Smithfield Recaptured by the Free States—The British Retreating to Allwal North—Fighting at Elands-laagte Suspended, the Burgers Reported to Be Pressing South.

LONDON, April 12.—Heavy cannonading was renewed at Wepener on Wednesday. The garrison is using the Jammersburg Drift mill for a hospital. The Boers respected the Red Cross flag and did not fire in that direction.

A despatch, dated at Pretoria, April 10, via Lourenco Marques, April 12, 7 a. m. says: "A despatch from Kroonstad, dated April 10, states that Smithfield has been recaptured by the Free States and that the British troops are retreating in the direction of Allwal North.

"General De Wet has surrounded another British division in the vicinity of Wepener. There was heavy fighting yesterday (Monday). An excellent result is expected hourly.

"Despatch riders from the Boer head laager at Glencoe, Natal, bring news that at daybreak today Gen. Louis Botha made a dash against the English camps at Elands-laagte. Heavy cannon and rifle fire was heard for several hours. The result is not yet known.

"Confirmation of the reported killing of Gen. De Villiers-Mareuil, while scouting between Boshof and Kimberley, has been received here. The news has created profound sorrow. If it is possible to do so, the remains will be brought here to receive national honors.

"A rumor is current in Pretoria that Colonel Baden-Powell is either dying or dead of fever at Mafeking."

A despatch from Ladysmith, dated today, says: "There is no further fighting at Elands-laagte. The Boers are reported to be pressing south, by way of Helpmakaar."

According to despatches from Natal the Boers again attacked the British positions at Elands-laagte yesterday and got within touch of the outposts. Rifle fire resulted and then there was an artillery duel of two hours, after which the Boers withdrew. It is difficult to understand the object of the Boers' attack, but it was probably a reconnaissance with a view to the possibility of cutting off the British from Ladysmith.

Despatches from the front indicate that 25,000 Boers are facing Lord Roberts and are waiting for him to make an aggressive move or leave an opening for an attack. The activity of the Transvaal troops is astounding Englishmen, who had

BOILED ALIVE BY STEAM

Three Men Caught Beneath an Overturned Engine and Killed.

A Fatal Railway Accident Near Snowshoe, Pa.—Of Four Men in the Cab One, the Engineer, Escapes—The Locomotive Buried in a Swamp—List of the Casualties.

BELEFONTE, Pa., April 12.—The mangled wreckage of a Snowshoe engine and three men are lying dead under a Pennsylvania Railroad engine, that is half buried in the swamps about Sugar Camp Flats. The engine was returning empty to Snowshoe, after a trip to the Sugar Camp Mine. Four men were on it, three of them riding on the fireman's side. When rounding a sharp curve the engine left the track and fell over a six-foot embankment into the swamp burying all of the men underneath, save the engineer, who escaped through the cab window.

The heads of the three men can be seen sticking out from under the imbedded boiler, but it is impossible to recover the bodies until a wrecking crew arrives from Tyrone, which will take several hours. Their death must have been horrible, for they were practically boiled alive by the escaping steam.

The dead are: Harry Temple, fireman, of Snowshoe, unmarried; Cal Temple, brakeman, of Snowshoe; Leaves a widow and two children. Allen Reamer, engine hostler, of Dix Station, single.

The only other man on the engine was engineer Al Bowen, who is quite seriously injured.

ARRIVED AT BERMUDA

An American Fleet Drops Anchor at Hamilton.

HAMILTON, Bermuda, April 12.—An American fleet arrived here this morning. All on board are well. The ships anchored off the British stockyard at 9 o'clock. Great preparations are being made by the officers of the British fleet at this station and the entertainment of the American officers. A grand ball will be given in their honor on April 13.

A LANDSLIDE IN BOHEMIA

Fifty-two Houses Have Fallen in and the Rest Are Doomed.

VIENNA, April 12.—A landslide has occurred at Klappal, Bohemia, causing a hill to move. Fifty-two houses built on the hill have fallen in and it is expected that the rest of the village will follow.

RUSSIA RENEWS HER DEMAND

The Privilege of Landing Troops at Masanpo Enacted.

YOKOHAMA, April 12.—Advice from Seoul, Korea, are to the effect that Russia has renewed her demand for the privilege of landing troops at Masanpo.

DROWNED BELOW HATCHES

Eight Sailors Caught in a Capsized Boat.

LONDON, April 12.—The steam lifeboat from the Padesote, Cornwall, station, while attempting to assist a fishing smack, which was in trouble, was overturned. Eight of the crew, including two engineers and two firemen, were drowned. The latter were in the engine room, and the hatches were battened down they could not escape.

SAID TO BE A PRISONER

Sir Frederick Hodgson Thought to Be Held by the Boers.

ACCRA, April 12.—There is an unconfirmed report that Governor Sir Frederick Hodgson is a prisoner at Kumass. An English missionary writes that five English officers and forty Hausa have been killed in the fighting with the tribesmen.

BARRED FROM CITY STREETS

A Railway Company Shut Out by Court From Wilmington.

WILMINGTON, Del., April 12.—Chancellor Nicholson has granted a preliminary injunction restraining the Wilmington and Brandywine Railway Company from laying its tracks on West Sixth Street, thus preventing the road from entering the city.

At the same time the chancellor decided that the Wilmington City Company does not have exclusive rights to the use of all of the city streets and that the legislature at that time had a right to grant a company the use of any of the streets. The Wilmington City Company will move to have the injunction made permanent. The Brandywine Springs Company will appeal the case to a higher court. The chancellor decided that the Wilmington and Brandywine Springs Company had not built its road according to the conditions of its charter.

The Brandywine Springs Company may apply for a new charter under the corporation law.

RELEASED FROM CUSTODY

The Charge of Murder Against Charles Bowen Not-prossed.

On the motion of the United States Attorney for the District, the indictment against Charles Bowen, colored, charging him with manslaughter, for the killing of Samuel Jones, also colored, on September 17, 1898, was today not-prossed.

Unprecedented Snowfall in Chicago

CHICAGO, April 12.—The snowfall yesterday and last night broke all records in Chicago for April. Two inches fell in two hours at one period of the storm. The storm continued until daylight, with melting, and buries of snow are falling today. Considerable damage has been done to telephone and telegraph wires.

To View the Eclipse

NORFOLK, Va., April 12.—Lewis W. Ripley, representing the Hartford Scientific Society of Hartford, Conn., which is planning for an expedition to the South Atlantic, left this city last night for their headquarters at Muscogee, Indian Territory.

Gray has made arrangements with Observer Yale, Brown and Harvard Universities to witness the eclipse from the roof of the Weather Bureau building in this city.

Daves Comission Leaves

The Daves Commission, acting on behalf of the Five Civilized Tribes of Indian Territory, left this city last night for their headquarters at Muscogee, Indian Territory.

April 14 and 15, good for return until Royal Monday. Tickets good on all trains except Norfolk Limited.

Very wide Poplar, 30 inches wide, cap in town for it at 6th and N. Y. ave.

Ordinary Flooring, dressed 2 sides, \$1.25 per 100 sq. ft. Frank Libby & Co., 6th and N. Y. ave.

A STRIKE ON THE SOUTHERN

The Road Said to Be Affected From This City to Memphis.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., April 12.—All members of the Order of the Railway Trainmen on the Southern Railway system quit work at 11 o'clock today on the order of President Powell, of the Order of Railway Trainmen. At 8 o'clock this morning President Powell sent out the wires from Atlanta the following message:

To all telegraphers and stationers of Southern Railway: Turn your red black and quit work at 11 o'clock today. Perform no service of any sort, stand firm and victory is yours.

W. V. POWELL.

A. B. Stillwell, of St. Louis, first assistant to Mr. Powell, has opened headquarters at the Southern Hotel here and has two stenographers busy. Mr. Stillwell states that 75 per cent of the employees of the system are involved in the strike and that the road will be tied up from Washington, D. C. to Greenville, S. C., and Memphis, Tenn. The railroad authorities say the strike will not be a long one, but they have men ready to take their places. So far, there is no appearance of an interruption to business here.

THE CUMBERLAND STRIKE

Probable Effects of the Suspension of the Mines.

CUMBERLAND, Md., April 12.—The miners of George's Creek will lose on an average about \$7,700 a day in wages at the present rate of 55 cents a ton as long as the strike lasts. The average daily tonnage last year was 14,600 tons. It is said that should the strike exhaust itself—and not a few people think it will—the mine owners would have the opportunity to reduce the forces in some of the mines, which, it is claimed, have been overworked.

On the miner's side, however, the ultimate success is anticipated, and, of course, if they win the reduction of the forces would be improbable. Conservative people here think the most serious loss will be to the mine owners, who will promote the introduction of machines, which the operators are said to contemplate. Such a move would largely lessen the number of men employed.

The suspensions of men by the consolidation Coal Company is said to be responsible for the thorough undermining of the mine. It is expected that the miners' pensions, was numerically weak in comparison with the total force of the region, but since then men have been joining the ranks.

The operators say they have never objected to conferring with their own men, but they will not consider operators who are not willing to have a strike. Some of the present agitators are from the central Pennsylvania region, where the men will keep on working, despite the strike here. The central Pennsylvania people receive 60 cents a ton.

A gentleman from Loneoaning stated that under the present rate the Maryland miners were making big money, and he knew of a father and son who together were averaging \$200 a month.

HAMPED BY THE STRIKES

The Chicago Police Unable to Cope With Thieves.

CHICAGO, April 12.—The robbers who entered the residence of O. W. Potter, 139 Lake Shore Drive on Monday night, and carried away diamonds and other jewelry, variously valued at \$16,000, have not yet been caught. The robbery was not reported to the police until late in the night. The plunder, which in value exceeds any haul made by thieves in Chicago for several years, consists of diamonds, rubies, emeralds, opals, silverware, and watches.

The chief of police, having received the report, has ordered the department to have a patrol place at 6 o'clock, while the family were at dinner. It was a second story affair.

Chief Kipler, of the Police Department, chief having penetrated his chest, passing through the upper part of the right lung and dividing left the body through two holes in the back.

It was hoped that the lieutenant might survive and this hope gained strength when it was noted how bravely he maintained his strength during Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. On Tuesday morning he was unconscious. Tuesday evening, the circumstances of the shooting was resumed at the navy yard. It developed that according to the deceased officer's own statement he had lost a toe prior to the shooting and was, at the time he was challenged by the sentry, climbing over the ramparts.

AN UNABASHED BRIBER

He Sees Nothing Wrong in Offering Money for an Appointment.

POSTON, April 12.—G. W. Ernst, Mayor Hart's private secretary, is authorized for the statement that the mayor received a letter, a few days ago, from a citizen, who asked for appointment to an important office and offered, as a reward for the mayor's granting his request, the sum of \$1,000. Mayor Hart replied to the letter last Monday in a very brief manner and to the point. In the fewest possible words the mayor told the applicant that he had made a grave mistake.

He called the attention to the bribery laws, the penalty thereof and, in order to save the officeholder from disgrace and punishment, the mayor wrote that he would hold the letter for two or three days in order to allow the correspondent ample time to call in person for the letter lest it might be recorded against him in criminal annals.

The strangest part of it is that the applicant called promptly at the mayor's office and expressed his provoked feeling that he could not have the appointment, and, moreover, that he had to withdraw his bribery offer of \$1,000.

To Advance General Corbin

Mr. Frye, the Presiding Officer of the Senate, today submitted to the Senate an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the Army Appropriation bill providing that the Adjutant General of the Army shall have the rank, pay, and allowance of a major general.

Mr. Allen Retired.

Assistant Secretary Allen declined this morning to discuss his prospective retirement from the Navy department and appointment as Civil Governor of Porto Rico. He referred all enquiring persons to the President for information.

Cuban Departments Merged

A general order was issued at the War Department today, abolishing the Department of Havana and the Departments of the Province of Havana and Pinar del Rio, and merging them into one department to be known as the Department of Havana and Pinar del Rio. Brigadier General Fitzhugh Lee has been appointed the commanding general of the department.

\$1.25 to Baltimore and Return via B. & O. Saturday and Sunday.

April 14 and 15, good for return until Royal Monday. Tickets good on all trains except Norfolk Limited.

Very wide Poplar, 30 inches wide, cap in town for it at 6th and N. Y. ave.

Ordinary Flooring, dressed 2 sides, \$1.25 per 100 sq. ft. Frank Libby & Co., 6th and N. Y. ave.

BURIED IN THE DEBRIS

Three Persons Killed and Many Injured by a Falling Structure.

A Four-Story Warehouse Collapses in Pittsburg, Engulfing Twenty-five People—The Removal of a Girder Said to Have Been Responsible for the Disaster—The Victims.

PITTSBURG, Pa., April 12.—The four-story warehouse of the Armstrong & McKelvey White Lead Company, at Second Avenue and Wood Streets, collapsed at 9:30 o'clock this morning, and it is believed that twenty-five persons are injured or buried in the ruins. A general alarm of fire was sent in and the firemen were immediately re-enforced by the entire corps of men from the street cleaning department, but it will be some time before the buried persons can be reached as the front half of the deep building sank to the ground and the wreckage is fully fifteen feet high. Three men, who were thrown toward the Wood Street entrance when the accident occurred, were taken out alive before the firemen arrived, but all were too badly hurt to give any explanation of the cause. It is said that the building was being repaired and a girder was temporarily removed yesterday, but this report has not been confirmed.

Later reports indicate that the accident was not so serious as first reported. It is known now that the following persons all more or less hurt, crawled out of the wreckage of the ruins before the firemen arrived: Charles Casper, Secretary of the Armstrong & McKelvey branch of the lead company; Miss Stewart, Miss L. Stewart, Eugene Bernhardt, are still in the building. Casper is alive. One fireman reached him with a cup of water, but cannot get any more for him. The men employed by the contractor, who was repairing the building, two women customers, and a man from Fayette county, who was in the store this morning, are all missing.

A list of the victims is as follows: The dead are: Oscar High, carpenter, employed by McGovern & Co., 1000 Wood Street; E. C. Barnhardt, store salesman, thirty years old; Unknown woman, customer in store.

The injured seriously are: Noel Caspar, city salesman in Bombay, India; Colonel known man, a teacher, removed to hospital; Joseph Schuss, No. 1 engine Company, caught under falling wall; Michael Shaug, mine filer; The other injured were: Herman Doehner, warehouse man; Harry Dawson, shipper; J. Frank Webster, porter; Charles J. Casper, Secretary Armstrong & McKelvey; Miss Annie L. Stewart, stenographer; Mr. Rainey, book-keeper; James Sims, employe of McGovern & Lytle; Fred Miller, an employe in the store; William McHenry, a watchman of the company; Bob —, office boy.

DEATH OF LIEUTENANT SCOTT

The Mistake of a British Sentry Proves Fatal.

VICTORIA, B. C., April 12.—The tragic shooting of Lieutenant Scott by Sentry Gunner Higgins, Royal Artillery, at Esplanade Naval Yard, on Friday night last, is again brought prominently into attention by the death at the Naval Hospital of that unfortunate officer. His injuries from the first had been regarded as most serious, the bullet having penetrated his chest, passing through the upper part of the right lung and dividing left the body through two holes in the back.

It was hoped that the lieutenant might survive and this hope gained strength when it was noted how bravely he maintained his strength during Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. On Tuesday morning he was unconscious. Tuesday evening, the circumstances of the shooting was resumed at the navy yard. It developed that according to the deceased officer's own statement he had lost a toe prior to the shooting and was, at the time he was challenged by the sentry, climbing over the ramparts.

PERISHED IN THE FLAMES

A Woman and a Boy Burned to Death Near Pittsburg.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., April 12.—The residence of Peyton H. Ruble, at Daisy postoffice, seven miles south of here, was destroyed by fire. The Ruble residence was a two-story frame building and was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Ruble, a little boy named Davis and Mrs. Ruble's mother, aged 80 years. About 12 o'clock the grandmother woke up and found her room filled with a mass of flames. She immediately called for help and her son soon appeared and carried her to a place of safety.

He then hurried back and made three heroic attempts to rescue his wife and the little boy, who were sleeping on the second floor, but the flames had made too much headway, and it was impossible to reach the head of the stairway. He then called to his wife from the outside to jump from the window. She came to the front window and broke the glass, but was enveloped in flames before she could jump and fell. The dead are Mrs. Ruble, wife of Peyton Ruble, and Gordon Davis, aged nine years, son of Albert Davis, of this city. Mr. Ruble was seriously injured while trying to rescue his wife and will probably die.

DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY

A Report on Its Condition During the Month of March.

Colonel Miller, of the Engineer Corps, U. S. A., who has supervision over the Washington Aqueduct has submitted a report on the condition of the water supply for the month of March. This report confirms the experience of the people of the District and pronounces the water bad.

During twenty-three days of the month the water was "very turbid" and "turbid" for six days, being clear for only two days during the entire month. The report does not assign causes for the condition of the water or suggest any remedy for its betterment.

The consumption of water, including waste, was tested for twenty-four hours, ending at 7 a. m., March 28, and was in the aggregate 45,085,482 gallons.

The balance of the report relates to detail work on the removal of sand bars and the progress of repairing the tunnel and the Howard University reservoir. Some unexpected difficulties were met near station 15 a short distance west of Howard University and it became necessary to close up the ends of the tunnel with masonry walls and to pump cement into the surrounding earth, which after hardening would enable the engineers to proceed with the work.

The District Reform School.

Senate bill 3490 amending the act relating to the Reform School of the District so as to raise the age of commitment from sixteen to seventeen years was passed today. The bill also provides that the board of trustees may make rules and regulations for their own government and that of the institution and for the release of boys committed to the school.

The Government Receipts.

The receipts of the Government today reached the sum of \$1,276,780.23. They are made up of customs, \$435,005.23; Internal revenue, \$871,584.24; miscellaneous, \$44,190.80. The expenditures amounted to \$1,655,000.

Conference Report Agreed To.

In the Senate this morning the conference report on the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Appropriation bill was presented and agreed to.

Norfolk & Washington Steamboat Co.

Delightful trips daily at 6:30 p. m. to Old Point Comfort, Newport News, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach. For schedule see page 7.

Carpenters' Lists always bid on low at Friendly Corner, Libby & Co., 6th & N. Y. ave.

THE PORTO RICAN BILL

Now in the Hands of the President for His Signature.

The Porto Rican Tariff bill was handed to the President shortly after 2 o'clock for his signature. Mr. McKinley was just starting for a drive and stated that he would not attach his signature to the bill until after his return.

LEAPED FOR THEIR LIVES

Inhabitants of a Tenement House Caught by Flames.

NEW CASTLE, Pa., April 12.—Elwood City, near here was visited by fire in a big tenement house yesterday. The house was occupied by three families and boarding, in all thirty persons. All were sleeping in upstairs rooms and escape was cut off by flames from below. Everyone had to jump and seven were injured, two perhaps fatally.

The others escaped with broken arms and legs and bruises. Elwood has no fire department and the house was destroyed. Loss, \$7,000.

MONEY LEFT TO COOPER UNION

John Halstead Bequeaths His Fortune to the Institution.

NEW YORK, April 12.—The will of John Halstead, a retired merchant who died last May, makes Cooper Union the residuary legatee of his entire estate, which is appraised at nearly \$300,000.

The bequest was a surprise to the trustees of Cooper Union, for none of them had ever known Halstead personally and none of them knew that Halstead ever had even visited the Union. Nevertheless it turns out that the old gentleman was more than eighty years old—was a close student of the educational work of the Union and he devoted years of his life to observing the good that it did. Abram S. Hewitt, Secretary of Cooper Union, said of Mr. Halstead's bequest:

"His gift, I think, will prove one of the largest ever made to Cooper Union. The value of the estate today is between \$250,000 and \$300,000, but Cooper Union will not receive the bequest until the death of Mrs. Wilbert, Mr. Halstead's sister. It may then be of even greater value."

THE POVERTY OF INDIA

Former Secretary Edge Writes of Destitution and Death.

HARRISBURG, Pa., April 12.—Former Secretary of Agriculture Edge and Mrs. Edge are on a tour around the world. They left here last summer and have been in Hawaii, China, Manila, Japan, and in February were in Bombay, India. Colonel Edge writes that in the interior of India there has been no rain for three years and that the country is a desert. The people are starving and much of the live stock has already perished. Nothing can be grown except by irrigation and this only by hauling water up from deep wells with oxen.

Their month's stay in India was full of interest. At many stations they saw large piles of the bones of animals that had died for want of food and water. They say they saw more real poverty in one day in India than they would see in a year in the United States. "In fact," he writes, "my own people do not know what poverty and the want of food means." In India he says hundreds of people are dying daily for the want of food.

PERISHED IN THE FLAMES

Referring to the remarks made by Mr. Wilcott a few days ago in which he appealed to the friends of Mr. Quay to come to his assistance, Mr. Burrows said: "I have understood and supposed that the qualifications for a United States Senator prescribed by the Constitution of the United States, requiring that one should have attained the age of thirty years, been nine years a citizen of the United States, and an inhabitant of the State from which he was elected."

"It has not been my understanding that in addition to these qualifications he should possess the qualifications of a citizen of the United States, or that if he possessed these constitutional qualifications that the personal likes or dislikes of the individual members of the Senate would in any way be invoked in determining the right to a seat in this body. We are astonished that Mr. Quay has understood that a man should not only be a citizen of the United States, but also an inhabitant of the State from which he was elected."

"I do not believe that Mr. Quay has understood that, in addition to age, citizenship, and inhabitancy of the State, it was also essential that he should be a member of a previous Senate. I do not find it laid down in the Constitution, as one of the qualifications for admission to this body, that a man should not only be a citizen of the United States, but also an inhabitant of the State from which he was elected."

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