

The Weekly Miner.

VOLUME 4, NO. 29.

BUTTE, MONTANA: TUESDAY, DEC. 23, 1879.

WHOLE NO. 187

Butte Weekly Miner.
PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING
BY THE
Butte Publishing Company.
BROWN, Business Manager.

TERMS—BY MAIL:
One month, \$1.00
Six months, \$5.00
One year, \$10.00
Carriage extra each month.
Advertising rates will be furnished on application.

TELEGRAMS!
UNITED STATES.

THE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 13.—About 3 a. m. today the two-story brick livery stable owned by Gillis, corner Scott and Elm streets, was discovered in flames and in a few minutes the efforts of the fire department were wholly destroyed. The contents of the cotton compressing plant which was also destroyed. The Gillis family were sleeping in the second and only safe avenue of escape cut off when they were aroused, Mr. and Mrs. Gillis and their children of 10 and 12 years of age were suffocated by the smoke and back she was burned to death. Gillis was unconscious from injuries to the head. It is thought he inhaled the gas and is fatally injured. Both children severely injured. About ten horses and carriages and buggies were destroyed. One hundred bales of cotton burned. Loss, \$10,000 on stable and compress. Ten thousand dollars insurance on the cotton.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 15.—Congressman Harris received dispatch saying the full returns of the recent State election show a Democratic majority of over 30,000. The Democrats have elected 31 members of the Senate and 76 members of the House, while the Republicans have only 5 Senators and 17 members of the House. The official returns are certain to give the Democrats over 80 majority in the Legislature on joint ballot. Senator Kellogg, in commenting on this news, says: "If any evidence was needed to convince impartial judges that frauds of a gross character were perpetrated and intimidation resorted to in country parishes to prevent negroes from voting, the returns furnish it, and the result tells its own story."

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LOS ANGELES, Dec. 15.—The *Tribune* in an editorial in reference to a letter on the Indian problem, asks how we expect the Utes to remain at peace when the only answer to their cries for bread, or to their demand for a chance at life, has been an official declaration of the Secretary of the Interior that they have "no just cause for complaint."

PARIS, Dec. 13.—The *Temps* asserts that the Ministry will avail themselves of the retirement of LeRoyer from the Ministry of Justice to reconstitute a Cabinet to their own liking. In the reorganization Waddington will only retain the Foreign Portfolio. The choice for Premier lies between Leon Say, Minister of Finance, and DeFreycinet, Minister of Public Works. If DeFreycinet accepts the leadership he will have complete freedom of action in choosing his colleagues, and when the Cabinet is formed he will, with them, determine upon the programme.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—General Roberts telegraphed from Cabul, under date of the 13th inst., that the enemy had been defeated on all sides, but that notwithstanding their heavy losses, parties of Afghans still remain in the neighborhood. General Roberts announced his intention to attack on the 14th inst. unless these parties disperse. The total English loss during three days' fighting is 43 killed, including 6 officers, and 76 wounded, of whom 10 are officers.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Joseph and Mary Volkmer, who have been on trial for the past week for attempting to poison Chas. E. Blair, a merchant of Chatham four corners, were convicted this afternoon of administering poison to him with intent to kill. Joseph was sentenced to the State's prison for two years, and Mary to the penitentiary for the same period.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—It seems to be quite certain that the President has made up his mind to nominate John Morton as Collector of Internal Revenue at San Francisco, for one of his private secretaries to-day solicited a member of the Senate to support the nomination if sent in. This request was accompanied with a very distinct intimation that it may daily be expected. It need hardly be said that this sort of lobbying has intensified the determination of the California delegation to spare no effort to defeat the nomination if he is sent in.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The Colorado delegation in Congress after full consultation have decided not to risk a long postponement of final action on the Ute question by opposing the adoption by the House of the Indian Committee amendments to the Senate joint resolutions, but will let it go through that body speedily, with a view to obtaining good terms through the instrumentality of a Committee of Conference. In this way they hope to secure the enactment of some satisfactory measure before Christmas holiday adjournment. Secretary Schurz denies that the Interior Department favored the amendments adopted by the House Committee. He says, on the contrary, that he desires the removal of all the Colorado Utes to the Uintah reservation in Utah, except such of the non-hostiles as will agree to relinquish tribal relations and cultivate small parcels of soil in Colorado, the same as other people.

There are indications to-day that a compromise will be effected among the Democratic Senators in regard to the Bayard resolution by adopting some such amendment as

as may be deemed necessary in the judgment of said committee or of the Secretary of the Interior for their removal and settlement in some other suitable place in the State of Colorado, provided that said committee or Secretary of the Interior in any agreement made with said tribe of Ute Indians for the cession of any part of their reservation in Colorado, shall obtain, before said cession shall be provided in section sixteen of the treaty made at Washington on the second of March, 1868, between the government of the United States and said Ute tribe of Indians; and provided, that no agreement made with said tribe of Indians shall be valid unless agreed to by three-fourths of the adult male Indians, who have not forfeited their treaty rights as aforesaid, occupying or interested in the same; provided Congress shall confirm said cession, and the Secretary of the Interior shall report his proceedings under this resolution to Congress for its consideration and approval. The expense of such negotiation is to be paid by the United States, for which purpose \$10,000 or as much thereof as may be necessary is hereby appropriated.

The committee instructed the chairman to report favorably the resolution of Representatives Scales and Bedford. The special committee of the National Board of Trade had a conference with the executive committee of the National Board of Health and expressed themselves in entire accord with the Board of Health on the matter of quarantine. They were also gratified to know that the systems of quarantine proposed by the Board of Health would cause slight if any interference with the commercial interests of the country.

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thrown out the Republican Representatives from Portland, Bath, Saco, Rockland and Lewiston, and other towns enough to make vacancies in fourteen Representative districts.

PORTLAND, Me., Dec. 15.—A special to the *Argus* (Dem.) says that the Council have not completed the canvass, a few districts remain unsettled. It is expected that the result will be reached by Wednesday. Democratic returns as well as Republican have been thrown out. It is thought that the House will be 77 fusion and 62 Republicans with 12 vacancies, and the Senate 16 fusion and 12 Republicans.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Senator Sanders received a letter from an ex-Governor of Oregon saying that they want a quarter of a million of colored people in Oregon, and will offer every inducement for immigrants of that class, as they prefer them to the Chinese. Sanders is urged to use his influence to encourage an exodus of Southern negroes to that State.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The District Supreme Court, at the general term took up today the case of the lottery agent against Postmaster-General Key, in which the complainant seeks an injunction to restrain the enforcement of the recent order of the Post-office Department forbidding the delivery to him of mail matter, postal orders and registered letters. Counsel for the respondent filed a demurrer setting forth that no affirmative allegation asking for relief had been made as in equity there should have been; that no private letters have been withheld; that respondent is improperly sued as a citizen of Tennessee; that the Postmaster-General has the rightful custody of the mails, and that the letters said to have been withheld are letters pertaining to lottery business.

There was some discussion as to whether the argument should proceed on the demurrer or on the bill. Chief Justice Carter said he had no doubt that the demurrer should be heard first in the natural order of argument. Judge Ray then proceeded with his argument upon the demurrer, maintaining that the President alone was responsible for the official action of his executive officers, and that the proceedings should be against him and not against the head of the Department. That the bill could not properly be brought against the Postmaster-General as a citizen of Tennessee, that the Court had no jurisdiction and no power to issue the injunction prayed for, and that the Postmaster-General, under the statutes establishing the registered letter system, had full power to take the course he had.

Senator Carpenter, in behalf of the complainant, argued that the Postmaster-General represented the President only in the exercise of discretionary executive power; the present case is one in which the President could not act. This Court, Senator Carpenter said, is called upon to say whether Congress can authorize the Postmaster-General to try persons for sending improper matter by mail, to cut him off from the benefits of the postal service if he (the P. M.-General) considers him guilty, and then to let the condemned individual that he has no right to come into a court of equity and have justice done him. The argument will be continued to-morrow.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The following telegram was received by Secretary Schurz this afternoon: LOS PINOS, Dec. 15.—Ouray has left for the bands of White River Utes to assist in bringing in the Indians demanded. It is now as certain that the Indians will be surrendered as that any arrangement can be relied upon with the Indians. The Indians left for Denver yesterday. (Signed) HATCH, Commissioner.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—To-night in conversation with a *Tribune* correspondent respecting the anti-polygamy law and bills on that subject introduced by General Butler and Congressman Chittenden, who are of the opinion that the court will refuse to advance it, and will even perhaps ultimately dismiss it on the ground that it is not a genuine but only a manufactured case, but these apprehensions are not generally entertained. Chittenden is confident it will be advanced. He does not believe Congress will legislate on the subject, and remarks that most of the members are glad that the matter is pending in the Supreme Court, because it gives them an excuse to let it alone.

It is reported on good authority that the old bill to organize the Territory of Oklahoma, which was yesterday introduced by Senator Vest, the real purpose of which is to open up the Indian Territory to settlement, will be supported this session by a combination of Western and Eastern interests, including the Jay Gould railroad combination, so powerful as to make its enactment practically certain.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 16.—The General Assembly to-day voted for a United States Senator to succeed Senator Withers. The vote was taken in both houses in separate rooms. In the House the nominees were Withers, General Malone and General Wickham, resulting: Malone, 56; Withers, 40; Wickham, 2. In the Senate the only nominees were Withers and Malone, and the vote resulted: Malone, 23; Withers, 13. The joint vote was as follows: Number of votes cast 138; necessary to a choice, 50, of which Malone received 70, Withers, 53. The two houses will meet in joint session to-morrow, when a formal ballot will be taken and General Malone declared elected United States Senator.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—The *Sun* sounds the alarm that the Republicans are preparing to elect their Presidential nominee by controlling the Legislatures of certain Northern States. The States particularly spoken of in addition to New York, are Connecticut, New Jersey, Ohio, Colorado, Nevada, California and Oregon. New Jersey and Oregon have Democratic Governors, but the Republicans have the power to alter the method of choosing electors throughout the North.

that submitted this afternoon by Butler, of South Carolina, which proposes that the repeal of the legal tender power of greenbacks shall date from January 1st, 1868, instead of going into effect immediately. The apprehended danger of unsettling business by depreciating the value of greenbacks would it is argued be averted by thus giving time to prepare for the change.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The members of the National Republican Committee have nearly all arrived, except those from the more distant sections, and they will probably be represented by proxies selected from members of Congress. Many of the Western delegates seem to think that the next convention will be held in Chicago, and June 13th has been mentioned as the probable date on which the convention will be held.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 15.—Jonathan Whittaker on trial at Zetavia, Clermont county, O., for the murder of his father, Col. J. H. Whittaker, in May last, pleaded guilty of murder in the first degree, and was sentenced to the penitentiary for life. Col. W. R. Cook, a noted counterfeiter, was killed this morning at his house near Nicholasville, Ky. He had escaped from a number of U. S. Deputy Marshals who undertook to capture him last Friday, and the U. S. Marshals surrounded his house this morning and demanded his surrender. It is said he opened the door with a pistol in his hand, when he was immediately shot through the heart. He was Colonel of a Kentucky regiment in the Union army during the war.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 16.—Eugene Fichot, secretary to Carlotta Patti, gave his deposition today in the libel case of Patti vs. the *Post-Dispatch*. His testimony was in substance like that of the other parties examined yesterday—an emphatic denial that Patti was intoxicated at Leavenworth, or that she is at any time an immoderate woman. She drinks, he says, a little claret at dinner, but not near as much as her physician, Prof. Lobe, of Paris, advised her to take. She does not like spirits of any kind, and detests strong drink and malt liquors. Patti was to be examined to-day, but it is alleged that last evening when a Deputy Sheriff went to serve a subpoena on her she locked herself in her room and refused to be seen, and that she and the principal members of the troupe started on a late train for Topeka, Kansas, where she is to sing to-night. The party is enroute to Australia via San Francisco, and the probabilities are this will be the last of the libel suit.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Don Cameron did not go to Philadelphia to meet General Grant, and this fact has caused some comment to-day to the effect that it signifies that he is not in the Grant boom. The true reason, however, of his remaining in Washington is his candidacy for the Chairmanship of the National Republican Committee, which he is actively promoting with an almost if not completely assured prospect of success. The present outlook also indicates that Chicago will be promptly selected as the place of meeting for the National Convention, and the Second Wednesday in June as the time. The Grant men are understood, however, to favor an earlier meeting, about the 26th of May.

In connection with this topic, it is somewhat noticeable that notwithstanding the great amount of talk a few weeks ago about the intention of the Southern members to introduce a bill to make Grant Captain-General, no such measure has yet been presented to either house. The *National Republican* to-day suggests that it has been found superfluous because the people intend next year to make Grant Commander-in-Chief. Next Monday being meeting day in the Supreme Court, Senator Edmunds will move the case made up by General Butler and Congressman Chittenden, who are of the opinion that the court will refuse to advance it, and will even perhaps ultimately dismiss it on the ground that it is not a genuine but only a manufactured case, but these apprehensions are not generally entertained. Chittenden is confident it will be advanced. He does not believe Congress will legislate on the subject, and remarks that most of the members are glad that the matter is pending in the Supreme Court, because it gives them an excuse to let it alone.

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The Republican journals are of course furious over what they call the Maine outrage. The *Star*, however, says the Democratic Governor and Council only did their sworn duty, and in the next breath taunts the Republicans with having set the example in the Southern States. The *World* says that Governor Garcelon and his advisers have made a serious political and not less serious moral mistake; they have nullified the will of the people of Maine as expressed at the last election on account of technical errors and oversights. These errors and oversights were committed not by the electors but by local canvassers.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—The *Independent* to-morrow will publish a statement from Col. Kimble, the officer who moved the Ponca Indians from Nebraska to the Indian Territory. It refutes the story told by Standing Bear and his friend now in this city relative to their treatment, showing from the official

papers that the Ponca chiefs surrendered their bands before they visited the Indian Territory, but afterwards broke faith with the government and refused to go into the Territory to look for a new home, and finally ran away from instead of being deserted by the officers in charge, as represented by them. It also shows that their removal was afterwards pressed by order of the present Secretary of the Interior, but that no force or severe treatment was employed, as stated by disaffected members of the tribe.

DENVER, Dec. 16.—A stage driven by Jas. Dwyer was overturned by a sharp wind in Boulder Cañon this morning, and fell down an embankment 70 feet. Dwyer received injuries which resulted in death to-night. No other person was seriously hurt. The prisoners here struck for an advance of 5 cents per 1,000, and the demand was granted, the price now paid being 45 cents.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The House committee on Mississippi levees, to-day agreed to report to the House the resolution authorizing and directing a committee to make the trip down the Mississippi about the 10th of November 1880, for the purpose of gaining more accurate information in regard to subjects within the purview of the committee's jurisdiction. The House committee on foreign affairs to-day took up the two resolutions referred to them expressing sympathy for the Irish people, and referred them to sub-committees for consideration and report.

The House committee on ways and means to-day designated January 27, 29 and 31, for a hearing upon the motion of the revision of the tariff upon sugars. The House committee on appropriations, after a session of several hours, agreed upon the consular and diplomatic appropriation bill as proposed by the sub-committee, with the exception of an item of 8,500 dollars for the Mexican claims commission, which was stricken out. The bill introduced in the Senate to-day by Davis, of W. Va., to relieve the treasurer of the United States from the amount now charged to him and deposited with the several States, refers to an amount of \$28,101,644, that now appears on all quarterly statements of the treasury as part of unavailable balance for which he is nominally responsible, although the money is not within his control. The act of June passed at the instance of Henry Clay, provided that all money in the treasury on the 1st of January, '37, except \$500,000 should be deposited with several States in proportion to their respective representation in Congress on conditions for its repayment to the government whenever needed and called for by the Secretary of the Treasury. In compliance with this law these instalments of the treasury surplus were deposited with twenty-six States then constituting the Union.

The House committee on naval affairs instructed the chairman to report favorably on Representative Conger's bill to authorize and equip an expedition to the Arctic regions. The House committee on judiciary held a busy session this morning with a full attendance of members. The resolution of Governor Young, of Ohio, relative to the pay of court officers here, rose to an animated discussion and a substitute not materially differing, was adopted and ordered to be reported to the House. It reads as follows: Resolved, by the House Representatives, the Senate concurring, that a joint committee of three Senators and five Representatives be appointed to investigate the present system of salaries, fees and emoluments allowed to officers of several courts of the United States, to ascertain whether any, and if any what abuses now exist, have existed or may take place hereunder, and to report by bill or otherwise.

FOREIGN.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 14.—General Roberts telegraphed a confirmation of the report of General McPherson's partial failure in his attempt on Friday to capture the ridge above Bala Pessar, at Cabul. On Saturday morning General Baker attacked the Afghan post with two and one-half regiments of infantry, two regiments of cavalry and eight guns, and succeeded in capturing the hills and driving the Afghans from all their positions. A letter dated at Candahar on the 1st inst. and published at Bombay, says that General Stewart has been instructed to send a messenger to Ayoub Khan, the Afghan commander at Perat, requiring him to hold Perat in the name of the British Government, and threatening the advancement thither of the British force in case of his failure to do so.

MADRID, Dec. 14.—The Senate yesterday continued the discussion of the bill for the abolition of slavery in Cuba. Señors Ruiz and Gomez spoke in opposition to the bill. The ministerial journals to-day announce that the cabinet council determined to take no steps regarding the members of the minority absenting themselves from the Chambers. They also state that Señor Canovas del Castillo has had an interview with General Martinez Compos and Señor Quesada, both of whom condemn the attitude of the minority.

WEST WINCHESTER, Ont., Dec. 14.—The bodies of John Brown and his daughter Addie, for whose murder Clark Brown, a son of the former, was recently hanged, has been exhumed for further examination. It is rumored that Mrs. Brown, wife and mother of the murdered persons, will be arrested in consequence of this examination.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—Paris newspapers print a Vienna telegram which asserts that Russia has proposed to the powers a collective step at Constantinople to accelerate the surrender of Gushin to Montenegro.

CETTINJE, Dec. 14.—Mukhtar Pasha, who has at present only ten battalions, has asked for reinforcements, and twenty battalions have started to his relief.

PARIS, Dec. 14.—The *Temps* says: No modification of the ministry will be made until after the adjournment of the Chambers. A committee of the Chamber of Deputies on the resolution to suspend the operation of the law declaring that judges shall be irremovable was elected yesterday. Nine members favor and two are opposed to the suspension of the law. All ministers absent themselves from their respective bureaux during the election.

BERLIN, Dec. 13.—Lord Dufferin, British Ambassador to Russia, is here, on his way to St. Petersburg. It is expected he will visit Prince Bismarck.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 13.—A dispatch says that Count Shvaloff's sudden change of plans for winter, and his immediate return to St. Petersburg, are regarded here as an affair of great importance.

There are rumors of a new Russian loan.

VIENNA, Dec. 14.—Germany, at the request of Austria, has instructed the commanders of German ships in Peruvian waters to protect the Austrian Consulate if they are imperilled on account of the war between Chile, Peru and Bolivia.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Last Saturday on the porch of the Limerick county club house an excited tenant with a cudgel felled to the floor Lord Fernoy, who resides in the county of Limerick. Lord Fernoy remained senseless for a time. The assault was immediately seized and taken to prison.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—It is reported that two English travellers have been captured by Greek brigands in Epirus who demand £4000 pounds for their ransom.

A letter from Vera Sassulitch, which was contained in the *Revolution*, a paper smuggled from Switzerland into Russia, explains that her attempt to kill Treppoff was made under orders from the Revolutionary committee, and not, as was urged by the defence at her trial, from personal indignation at cruelties to political prisoners. Several persons, including two women, drew lots as to who should kill Treppoff, and the work fell to Vera Sassulitch.

Davitt, Daly and Killen left Carrick, on the Shannon, to-day for Dublin. They were accompanied to the railway station by a large crowd and bands were playing Irish airs. The Attorney General arrived at Carrick, on the Shannon, last night, and was escorted to his lodging by twenty armed policemen. Thomas Brennan left Carrick on Shannon, to-day for Dublin.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The Viceroy of India telegraphs to-day that General Roberts reports his force is near Calcutta in the Shipkar cantonment. The loss on the British side in fighting yesterday was nineteen men killed, including two officers, and eighty-eight wounded, including three officers.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The *Central News* announces that the Indian government has asked for a reinforcement of 5,000 men to be sent out forthwith.

A St. Petersburg correspondent learns from good sources that the only general internal measure at present proposed is the establishment of a police force in every village.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 15.—Several diplomatic appointments have been officially announced including Sabouroff, ambassador at Berlin.

MADRID, Dec. 15.—Most of the statements published in reference to recent events here are officially declared to be either exaggerated or incorrect. Only six generals of the army resigned, and none of them actually held commands, but only occupied administrative posts.

VIENNA, Dec. 15.—A Russian circular to the powers urging collective action at Constantinople that will settle the Gushin affair, has been answered by Austria, Hungary and Germany, who declare themselves unable to comply with the request on the ground that such a step would create new difficulties.

RAGUSA, Dec. 15.—The Porte has issued a proclamation to the Albanians reminding them that the cession of Guzinje and Plava to Montenegro was stipulated by the treaty of Berlin, and that the resistance contemplated by a part of the inhabitants of those places would only result in useless bloodshed. The Porte appeals to the Albanians to relinquish all ideas of resistance.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 16.—General Roberts telegraphs from Cabul that one mountain gun was lost during Sunday's engagement. General Roberts estimates the number of the enemy at 30,000. "Their firing," he says, "was severe." He is confident of his ability to restore British authority in Afghanistan, but says reinforcements are necessary to enable him to act vigorously.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—A correspondent of the *Times* at Cabul telegraphed on the 15th inst.: The troops are in excellent spirits and ready for any work. The British loss in the various affairs of the past week was 42 killed, including 6 officers, and 76 wounded, including 9 officers.

The military contributor to the *Times* writes: The temporary success of Jan over General Massey, coupled with the evacuation of the position won at such cost on the 13th inst., has evidently given rise to the impetus which it will need all our strength to overcome. The Shinpur cantonments, which lie two miles north of Cabul, are entrenched and they contain several months supplies. The troops are in good health, though it is humiliating to feel that at this moment the Afghans have the upper hand; that our army of occupation is besieged; that the city of Cabul has passed from our hands, and its governorship has been transferred to Mahomed Jan. Yet there is no cause for alarm. There is many a man inside that intrenchment who has faced heavier odds than there is at present against him, and though it may be unpleasant to learn that the Afghans hate us with the same undying hatred they manifested in '42, there is no reason to feel any apprehension of a repetition of the disgrace which overtook us then.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—An explosion of blasting material in Wilhelmshafen salt mine, at Schwabischall, Wurtemberg, killed twelve miners and injured eight, of whom two only are expected to recover. The disaster was increased by the miners in the panic endeavoring to open the doors outward instead of inward, preventing aid from reaching them before they had fallen unconscious from the effects of the flames.

HALIFAX, Dec. 16.—Captain Swimm, of the schooner *Laura Bruce*, reports that when near a supposed uninhabited island off Naraganset, West Indies, a small vessel, schooner rigged, was seen at the only place of anchorage at the island. The *Laura Bruce* people backed to get out of her way, but the stranger seemed desirous of being drawn on and followed in every direction. At first the stranger was only under jib and foresail, but as the *Laura Bruce* showed a desire to get away, her main sail was also hoisted and it became evident the stranger meant to overhail them if possible, but after a chase of fifty miles the pirate looking craft drew away and no more was seen of her. She evidently was on a piratical expedition.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The *Times* in an editorial says: "The news from Afghanistan indicates beyond doubt that the crisis has been reached in our military operations in that country more important than any through which we have yet passed since the commencement of the invasion last year. Happily the position we occupy, and the resources at our disposal, appear to render us better able to meet this emergency than any which have yet preceded it. But our strength is being tested more severely than hitherto."