

BADEN-POWELL'S POSITION IS BECOMING DESPERATE

British Anxiety Increased by Lack of News From Mafeking—Spread of the Rebellion Among Dutch Colonists.



MEMBERS OF COL. BADEN-POWELL'S STAFF KILLED AND WOUNDED IN THE MAFEKING. CAPT. R. J. VERNON KING'S ROYAL RIFLES, KILLED. CAPT. H. C. SANDFORD, ARMY SERVICE CORPS, KILLED. LORD E. H. CECIL, LIEUT. GRENADIER GUARDS, WOUNDED. LORD C. C. BINTINCK, LIEUT. 9th LANCERS, WOUNDED.

LADYSMITH BOMBARDED WITH PLUM PUDGING

LONDON, Jan. 1.—The following heliograph message has been received by way of Weenan from Ladysmith, dated Wednesday, December 27: "The Boers are actively bombarding the town. One shell struck the Devonshire mess tent, killing Captain Dalzell and wounding seven lieutenants—Dent, Twiss, Tringham, Gaffyn, Byrnes, Scafe and Kane."

A later dispatch from Ladysmith by way of Weenan, dated Friday, December 28, says: "All well. The Boers have been firing plugged shells containing plum pudding and the compliments of the season. They are still fortifying their positions, and are evidently determined to make a firm stand."

TWO RECONNOISSANCES RESULT DISASTROUSLY

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LONDON, Jan. 1.—The Daily Telegraph publishes this dispatch from its special correspondent: "FRERE CAMP, Dec. 31.—It is stated the Boer bridge below Mount Hlangwani has been washed away, leaving some of the Boers isolated on this side. The intended night bombardment of the Colenso line, mis-arranged yesterday, Thornycroft's Horse and force of mounted infantry advanced toward Tugela River. The Boers discovered them, as it was intended, turning their searchlight on the men, and opened a heavy Mauser fire. Our naval guns, which were to have seized an opportunity to cannonade the enemy's trenches, did not fire. They waited to hear musketry, but that was inaudible five miles away on a wet and stormy night. So, after undergoing much discomfort and floundering about in mud and water, the troops returned to Chieveley."

Much the same fate befell a reconnoitering force sent in the direction of the Tugela River. It is still highly probable that the Boers will be able to hold the position, and that the British will be unable to effect a junction for some time. The Cape Argus asserts that the latest importations by way of Lourenzo Marquez are six large Armstrong guns and sixteen cases of ammunition, all of which have arrived at Pretoria.

The imperial authorities at the Cape have seized at Adelaide an immense consignment of arms and ammunition known as "Biscuits," sent by Boers to Dutch farmers in that neighborhood.

A correspondent of the Associated Press at Starksburg, telegraphing December 31, says: "Captain Montgomery of the Twenty-first Lancers, with a patrol of 120, was reconnoitering eight miles north of Dordrecht. He met the Boers at Labuschagane. They opened fire and the British replied. The fighting continued for six hours, when the Boers received strong reinforcements, including artillery. Captain Montgomery retired and took a defensive position at Dordrecht. The Boers did not pursue him. It is believed that they retired on their main body. Their losses are not known. Our loss was one man seriously wounded."

The Queen's message to the British troops in South Africa was sent to every general. It ran thus: "I wish you and all my brave soldiers a happy Christmas. God protect and bless you all."

The morning papers are inclined to refrain from commenting upon the Bundesrath incident pending further information. The Daily Chronicle says: "The incident was unfortunate, but the German may await the result of the inquiry with confidence in our fairness."

BOERS HAVE ADVANCED THEIR ENTRENCHMENTS

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LONDON, Jan. 1.—This dispatch from a special correspondent is published by the Daily Mail: "Modder River, Dec. 28.—Christmas over, we broke our rest by two reconnoissances this morning. One was three miles to the right, where we destroyed two farm houses, from which there had been occasional sniping. The other was on the left. A squadron of the Twelfth Lancers and a company of mounted infantry advanced in getting ranges and opened fire. The Boers were unable to find the way of effecting a junction for an attack. Men and horses stumbled and fell into the water. They were out all night and got drenched, but returned to camp in the morning."

Firing continues at Ladysmith and also now at Chieveley. General Buller, with Hart's and Lytton's brigades, is at Frere camp. The Tugela River is still high. Last night our 200 naval guns decidedly worried the Boers. Two rounds of the morning cannonade were fired at 3 o'clock in the morning. The place is now honeycombed with trenches. The Boers' guns are splendidly protected and sited. They have dug gullies and trenches all around the place. The Boers use the night to their advantage. They watch and warn their men to take cover. Their guns are ready to fire. "Thirty-one Boer wagons have been seen at the junction of Little and Big Tugela. An attempt will be made to destroy them."

BECHUANALAND DUTCH JOIN THE BOER RANKS

LONDON, Jan. 1.—The Daily Mail publishes the following dispatch from Cape Town: "Ninety-five per cent of the Bechuana-

PROCESSED BY THE LIFE

Troubles of the Los Angeles Fire Chief. MOORE'S FACE SCRATCHED

RACE BETWEEN BUGGY AND ELECTRIC CAR.

Mrs. Jones, the Present Object of Moore's Affections, Also Has a Stormy Interview With His Wife.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 31.—In a rage of jealousy Mrs. Walter S. Moore to-day publicly chastised her husband, who, as Chief of the Los Angeles Fire Department, is the best known individual in this city. For some time Mrs. Moore has questioned the fidelity of her spouse. To obtain direct evidence the Fire Chief has for weeks been under the surveillance of private detectives.

For his known relations with other women Mrs. Moore last spring administered to her recreant husband his first public whipping. The man who Mrs. Moore's present concern is Mrs. J. Jones, who with her husband, resides at 195 East Second street. Boyle's spirits and Mrs. Moore directly charges with undue intimacy with the Chief.

On Friday Mrs. Moore appeared at the Jones house, and Mrs. Moore's husband, but this was refused by the handsome blonde, who had the place barricaded. So great was the disturbance between the two women that Mrs. Moore, a neighbor, was made ill and fainted from fright.

On Friday morning Mrs. Moore went to the Jones cottage and, in a window, through which she gained access, in the bedroom Mrs. Moore found a skirt that belonged to her own wardrobe. The scene in the cottage can be imagined when Mrs. Moore returned.

Mrs. Moore afterward drove down the streets of Los Angeles in a buggy and saw her husband opposite the Nadeau Hotel in conversation with a woman. When their eyes met Moore boarded a car and Mrs. Moore frantically whipped the driver with the reins. Moore jumped from the car. Mrs. Moore also took a running leap from her buggy, and drove to the home of her husband. On a vacant lot facing Hill street they met. After the melee both were lacerated by the finger nails of the irate woman. Flushed with victory, Mrs. Moore drove to the chief's home, where she followed that is worthy of a Hyrcanian

Mrs. Moore, before her marriage, was a Miss Lanfranco, the family being re-quired to be written and Mrs. Moore's sister of Walter S. Maxwell, an applicant for office under Governor Gage. A long desire to apply for a divorce on the part of Mrs. Moore will shortly be realized.

December 27. This was near Victoria road. An attempt was made not far from the point to damage the railway. One man was caught in the act and shot. The would-be wreckers escaped. Like attempts were made in the vicinity of the Victoria road. Evidently small parties of Boers or Dutch colonials have been trying to interrupt the railway, but the elaborate British patrolling.

A patrol of regulars fired on a patrol of colonials. The latter were wearing broad-brimmed hats, and were shot at. The Boers fired at the regulars. In consequence of the incident an order has been issued requiring all classes of troops to wear helmets.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S LIST OF NEW YEAR HONORS

LONDON, Jan. 1.—The Queen's list of New Year honors, published last evening, shows that the following have been honored: Sir John Lubbock and Sir Henry Stafford Northcote, Governor of Bombay, are created Peers.

Baron Cromer, British diplomatic agent in Egypt, and Sir John Lubbock, are appointed members of the Privy Council. Charles Norton Elliot, the British member of the Samoan High Commission, is appointed Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George.

Naval Captains Stuart and Sturdee are designated Commanders of St. Michael and St. George for their services in Samoa. George Buchanan and H. Cunningham are designated Knights of the Bath in recognition of their services in connection with the Venezuelan boundary arbitration commission.

William de Wivelesse Abney, principal assistant secretary of the science and art department, is designated Knight Commander of the Bath. Among the new knights is Dr. Thomas Lauder Brunton, physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and Dr. George Buchanan, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, is also appointed Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George.

REAL SCOPE OF THE TREATY WITH PORTUGAL

BERLIN, Dec. 31.—Despite the semi-official disavowals, several of the leading German papers believe in the existence of a secret treaty concerning Delagoa Bay, which would give the Germans the right to a Lok Anzeiger regarding its nature. The Hamburg Correspondent says: "The treaty has no definite form, and it would come into force only in case Portugal should consent to sell a portion of her African possessions. It has been seen the treaty, and has offered no objections."

The Vossische Zeitung also asserts that the treaty does not mention Portugal's Asiatic possessions.

PREPARING FOR A FINAL SORTIE AT LADYSMITH

LONDON, Jan. 1.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Lourenzo Marquez, dated December 29, says: "It is reported from Ladysmith, by way of Pretoria, that the Boers are destroying their heavy cannon prior to a final sortie."

"Herr Fott, the Transvaal Consul General here, is losing Lloyds' agency and the agencies for the Castle, Union and Buchanan's steamship lines in consequence of the position he holds."

Cargo Evans' Ale and Stout Has just received by Sherwood & Sherwood's

Low Dutch Oil to the W. CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—A special dispatch to the Times-Herald from Orange City, Ia., says: "An entire regiment of soldiers is said to be en route from the Dutch colony in the Transvaal."

To Cure a Cold in One Day Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists sell the money if it does not cure you. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

PLANNED TO ORDER THE FOREIGN CONSULS

Filipino Plot for a Rising in Manila on the Day of Lawton's Funeral Frustrated.

MANILA, Dec. 31.—Four explosive bombs, a few stands of arms and 500 rounds of ammunition were discovered in a house in the center of Manila this morning while the police were seeking Recarte, the insurgent leader who was said to have come to Manila in the hope of effecting an outbreak yesterday by taking advantage of the mobilization of the American troops at General Lawton's funeral.

To-day it developed that the plot included the throwing of bombs among the foreign consuls attending the ceremonies, in order to bring about international complications. These, it seems, were to have been thrown from the Escolta's high buildings, but the avoidance of the Escolta by the funeral procession spoiled the plan.

The populace, it is thought, had been prepared for the attempt by a rumor circulated widely among the natives yesterday that Aguinaldo was in Manila and would possibly lead the outbreak.

The American authorities, having been advised of what was brewing, prepared for all contingencies. Captain Morrison, who commands the troops in the most turbulent district of this city, says he does not believe an actual uprising will ever occur, as the natives lack the resolution to take the first step, a movement which would entail fighting at close quarters with the American troops.

An American advance in Cavite Province, the presence of the Macabebes, shortly. Reliable reports from native spies show that there are upward of 2000 men in the insurgent army, and that they have been strengthened since General Schwan's advance. A thousand of the enemy are in the vicinity of the town of San Francisco de Malabon. From twelve to a hundred men will guard the insurgent army in the southern part of Cavite Province, and the same may be said of the towns in Batangas Province.

The provinces of North Camarines and South Camarines hold quantities of hemp, which the people cannot market. As a consequence, the population in that part of Luzon is suffering from lack of food. Rice now costs four times its normal price.

It is estimated that 1000 insurgents are centered at Calamba. Reports have been received that 2000 insurgents are massed at Mount Arayat, having a strong position which commands steep and narrow trails, and that they are prepared to roll backward down upon advancing troops.

Life along the coasts of the provinces of Cagayan and North and South Ilocos is resuming normal conditions. The American troops occupy the important towns and patrol the country roads. The natives implore the Americans to continue their occupation, to establish a settled government and to terminate the uncertainty, abuses and confiscations that have characterized the rule of the Tagalog revolutionists during the last eighteen months. Incoming Spanish prisoners declare that Aguinaldo has ordered the release of all Spanish prisoners now in possession of the rebels.

The transport Zafro has arrived at Manila, bringing General Tinano, who is much grieved at being supplanted by Colonel Hood as military Governor of Cagayan Province. He hesitates to land, because he looks upon Manila as a nest of insurgents who may assassinate him because he surrendered Cagayan. He says that when Colonel Hood arrived the presidents of all the towns in the province retreated to Aparri and begged him to continue them in their positions, saying also that the natives desired to be rid of the presence of the Macabebes, the friars and the colored American soldiers, toward whom they entertained a violent hatred.

Sixty-eight sick men out of Major Bachelor's command of 120 are coming to Manila.

BRINGING LAWTON'S BODY.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The departure of the transport Thomas from Manila with the remains of Major General Lawton was announced in a dispatch received at the War Department from General Otis. The vessel comes to the United States via Nagasaki. She also has aboard the remains of the late Major John A. Logan.

NEW CENTURY DIFFERENCES IN A YEAR HENCE CHINA SETTLED

This Declares Camille Flammarion. Valuable Concessions to Three Powers.

Special Cable to The Call and the New York Herald. Copyright, 1899, by James Gordon Bennett.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—The Herald's European edition publishes the following letter from Camille Flammarion, the eminent astronomer and chronologist: "Every hundred years, toward the end of each century, this question of the date of the change of century is discussed. I have before me documents of 1799, 1899 and 1999, which pose the problem and turn it over and over. Again, a whole Christian era is four years too long, which, by the way, will be favored by a very fine eclipse of the sun, total in the neighborhood of Paris on August 12, at twenty-eight minutes past 10 o'clock in the morning—our great-grandchildren will be able to see it. It is a matter of fact that distinguished minds to repeat the date of the change of century."

Christ was born in the year of Rome 753, not 754, and died at the age of 37, not 38, and the whole Christian era is four years too long. But it would certainly be inconvenient to change it, although this mistake has been made in some centuries. It is sufficient if people are agreed. It is clearly a matter of convention.

There have also been variations in the date of the beginning of the year, which has been placed sometimes in January 1 and sometimes in December 25. The year was shortened by ten days in 1582 to bring the calendar into line with the seasons. It is said that it did not prevent the last day of 1900 being the last of the nineteenth century.

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ANXIETY FELT FOR THE PIERRE LEGRAND

Fearing That She Foundered in the Recent Gales and Her Crew May Be Lost.

MARSEILLES, Dec. 31.—Great anxiety is felt here regarding the fate of the French steamer Pierre Legrand, due at Marseilles from Odessa a week ago. She is supposed to have foundered during the recent gales, with her crew of forty-five.

WILL BUILD ELECTRIC ROADS.

System to Be Operated on the Various Hawaiian Islands.

TACOMA, Dec. 31.—Contractor R. Condon, just from Honolulu, announces that the French steamer Pierre Legrand, representing an Eastern syndicate which is preparing to build a large system of electric railroads in Honolulu and elsewhere in the Hawaiian Islands, has contracted with the Hawaiian Islands Railway to build electric roads.

The Kohala and Hilo Railway will spend \$2,000,000 building 130 miles of road, in all nearly 300 miles will be constructed, using large quantities of American materials.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

LEBENBAUM & CO. 222-224 SUTTER STREET. HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Special! MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY. COFFEE, Roast, 20c lb. Fresh Daily. From Sandwich Islands, 25c. FINNAN HADDIES, Fresh 12c. SARDINES, Fresh Shipment 25c tin. SARDINIA, Fresh 25c tin. CORN, "New Era" 12c per can. Very "Sweet" Maine Corn, Reg. 5c. ALMONDS, Shelled 30c lb. HAMAMELIS, Extract of Witch Hazel 5 lbs 25c. BLACK CAT FISS 25c qt. OLIVES Black, Ripe 25c qt. AMMONIA, Washing 10c. GALL SOAP, German 20c cake. MALT WHISKY, "Acme" 75c bot. GIN, Holland gallon \$4.25. "SUIVO" Gas Heaters to close 65c. CARPET SWEEPERS, "Bissell's" 33.

YOUR BEST FRIEND for the present condition of the weather is A NICE FUZZY GARBMENT \$1 a Week pays for one at the O'HAYO TAILORING CO., 1316 MARKET ST. Open evenings.

Sore Spot Eye-Glasses Can be bought anywhere, but our clips, which fit the nose without a slip or pinch, can only be had of us. Optician's prescriptions filled. Quick repairing. Factory on premises. Phone, Main 19.

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DR. SANDEN'S BITTERS. Health and disease are physical conditions upon which depend pleasure or pain, contentment or unhappiness, success or failure. Health is essential to the accomplishment of every purpose, while sickness thwarts the best interests and loftiest aims. Why, then, if you are sick need you remain so when by the application of electricity through my DR. SANDEN'S BATTERY thousands of people are being restored to health every year—over 8000 of them for 1899. If it is convenient for you to call at my office do so and I will explain the battery to you; if not, send for my free book, "THREE CLASSES OF MEN," which explains all. Consultation and advice free. Office hours 9 to 6; Sundays 10 to 1. DR. T. A. SANDEN, 18 THIRD STREET, SAN FRANCISCO. 119 1/2 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, Cal.; Russel Building, Portland, Or.