



# The San Francisco Call.

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## BOER RAIDERS MAKE A DESCENT UPON AND CAPTURE THE BRITISH TROOPS GARRISONING HELVETIA

### Lord Kitchener Reports Fifty Men Killed or Wounded and the Remainder of the Force Prisoners.

### Patriots Besiege Zeerust and Additional Commandos Cross the Boundary to Invade Cape Colony.

Zeerust is besieged, Kimberley is isolated and news of Boer successes comes from points covering a wide area in South Africa. Lord Kitchener reports the capture of Helvetia, a strong post on the Machadodorp-Lydenburg Railway, by a Boer commando on Saturday. Fifty of the garrison were killed or wounded and the remainder, two hundred in number, led away into captivity. At Kimberley the scenes that marked the former siege are being repeated. Famine prices prevail and the military has taken charge of all food supplies, with the object of husbanding the resources of the town. It has been found necessary to withdraw the garrison from Otsohoop. Practically the whole of the two former republics and the northern portion of Cape Colony are overrun by Boer raiders, whose mobility enables them to concentrate rapidly and swoop down upon the smaller garrisons along the British lines of communication. To add to the misfortunes to British arms in South Africa, the demand for the resignation of Sir Henry Colville has raised a storm at home that threatens to involve the London War Office and the army chiefs in one of the greatest scandals that has ever shaken British military circles.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Lord Kitchener:

"PRETORIA, Dec. 30, 7 p. m.—General Littleton reports that our post at Helvetia was captured yesterday morning by the Boers. About fifty were killed and wounded and 200 taken prisoners."

"Colonel Kitchener reports that he is following with a small force in the track of the enemy, Helvetia being recaptured by Reeves, who has been reinforced from Belfast."

"Helvetia was a very strong position on the Machadodorp-Lydenburg Railway, and was held by a detachment of the Liverpool Regiment. Am asking for further information."

While Lord Kitchener sends this bad news for England on the closing day of the year, the press continues to take a surprisingly hopeful view of a grave situation and of revelations of an enormous wide field of Boer activity. General Dewet is still at large. Kimberley is isolated. The Boers are in force enough to have captured a strong position at Helvetia, in the Lydenburg district, while judging from Lord Kitchener's very recent advice no progress is being made against the Boer invaders in Cape Colony.

According to further telegraphic advice received yesterday Zeerust is practically besieged, but has provisions sufficient for five months. The garrison at Otsohoop has been withdrawn to Lichtenburg.

A dispatch from Carnarvon, dated yesterday, reports that the Boers who have been threatening that point were driven off and are being pursued.

"It is evident," says a belated message from Krugersdorp, dated December 21, "that the Boer commissariat in the direction of the Magdeburg is well supplied, and that until the country between here and the Magdeburg is properly cleared of Boers they will continue to concentrate there, the ground being particularly adapted to their methods of warfare."

The Boers admit that in their fight with General Clements at Nootgedacht they lost 120 men.

"It is understood that Lord Kitchener cannot ask the colonies officially to send troops," says a Durban dispatch, dated December 29, "but he desires it to be known in Australia and Canada that Australians and Canadians arriving in Natal will be eligible for immediate enlistment in the irregular corps, which is proceeding to Johannesburg for five months' service."

To emphasize Lord Kitchener's covert admission that no progress is being made against the invasion of Cape Colony, a correspondent at Burghersdorp, wiring Saturday, reports as follows:

"Two fresh commandos are entering the Colony. One has already crossed near Knaapdaar and the arrival of another is momentarily expected in the Steynsburg district. The Boers are said to have two or three horses each, though in bad condition. They have no guns or transport, but are well supplied with Lee-Netford rifles and ammunition. Captured Boers say that the intention of these commandos is to roam about and wait until Dewet appears on the scene."

All dispatches arriving in London agree that the Cape Dutch show no inclination to rise, but, on the contrary, appear to be tired of the war and desirous of peace. Many refuse to supply the Boers with food, and are willing to give information to the British regarding Boer movements. Details of the Greylingstad affair show

"French has occupied Ventorsdorp. Clements reports that he is opposed on the road to Rustenburg. The eastern line was blown up near Pan and a train was held up this morning on the Standerton line. General Knox's column and Boyd's brigade are holding Dewet from breaking south."

Commenting upon the Helvetia disaster, the Daily Mail calls upon the Government to send out at least 50,000 additional mounted men.

A warrant has been issued against Dr. Tewart, a member of the late Schreiner Cabinet, and he is under arrest on a charge of delivering a seditious speech at Graaf Reinet, inciting to rebellion, in connection with the recent Boer invasion of the colonies.

"This," says the Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, "is the commencement of a series of arrests heralding a wide extension of martial law."

The elaborate statement given to the

## FULLY IDENTIFY "MR. MONTGOMERY" AS THE REV. JAMES LE BARON JOHNSON

### Clerks of Montreal Hotel at Which the Clergyman Stopped Are Positive in Their Statements.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

MONTREAL, Quebec, Dec. 31.—Close inquiry leaves little doubt that Rev. James Le Baron Johnson of New York was in this city from December 9 to 12. A photograph of him was fully identified as that of "Mr. Montgomery," who was at the Windsor Hotel on December 9 and 10 and of "Mr. Ruggles," who lived at the house of Miss Gleason. "Mr. Ruggles" left Montreal on December 13 with a woman he called his wife to sail on the steamship Tunisian from Halifax.

The picture of Mr. Johnson was shown to Chief Clerk Phillips of the Windsor Hotel this afternoon and he was asked if it resembled "Mr. Montgomery."

"I could swear that that is the same man," he says. "I did not see the woman here at all, but there is no doubt whatever in my mind that the picture is that of the man you have been inquiring about and who was here for a day."

The clerk at the key counter also recognized the picture and said that the man received several messages at the Windsor upon a funny name. When asked if it was "Ruggles," he said:

"Yes, that is it. One was a telegram early in the morning and during the morning he got some messages delivered by a special service boy."

Pictures of Mr. Johnson and of a young woman who disappeared from New York at about the same time as the minister were shown to Miss Gleason. That of Mr. Johnson shows him in his fire department uniform. After she examined it Miss Gleason said:

"The hat and clothes make him look different, but Mr. Ruggles had just such a face as that. The picture of Mrs. Ruggles is not so good. She was so beautiful that no photograph could do her justice." Inquiries based on information that

peror declares that China accepts the joint note and authorizes Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang to negotiate and to ask for a suspension of hostilities."

The Emperor's instructions are to agree fully to the note, but to endeavor to get the best terms possible, particularly in the matter of limiting the number of the legion guards and also as to the places where these are to be located.

The plenipotentiaries are instructed to endeavor to limit the number of army posts along the line of railway to as few as possible and finally to request that powers not to destroy the forts but merely to disarm them.

Li Hung Chang's health is bad and it is doubtful whether he will be able to do more than affix his signature to an instrument delegating his powers to Prince Ching until another plenipotentiary shall have been appointed. He was dressed this morning and carried in a chair to the residence of Prince Ching, with whom he held a long consultation. Prince Ching then called upon the dean of the diplomatic corps, the Spanish Minister, Senor de Colagan, and requested him to notify the other envoys that instructions had been received from the Emperor to sign the note.

The foreign communities in Peking are satisfied at the decided tone of the collective note and the assertion that the powers are determined to entertain no proposals for the modification of their demands. It is understood Li Hung Chang sent a memorial to the throne couched in very strong terms urging complete compliance.

The Germans killed forty Chinese troops near Mancheng, northwest of Paotingfu. They had no casualties. Among the natives a feeling of great distrust is being caused, apparently by the high-handed action of the Germans, as the Chinese suspect them of an intention to force a serious engagement with the Chinese troops.

FAVORS WITHDRAWING TROOPS

State Department Anxious to Terminate Occupation of China.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—China is anxious that foreign occupation of her territory shall come to an end as promptly as possible, as it is constantly causing disorders and is an obstacle to the peaceful adjustment of affairs.

In view of the prospect that each nation will hereafter maintain a legion guard

visitors at Miss Gleason's, but was out all day long.

## AGREES TO DEMANDS OF THE POWERS

### Chinese Emperor Orders Signing of Joint Note.

### Imperial Edict Comes as a Surprise to Ministers at Peking.

### Kwang Su Only Asks That His Plenipotentiaries Obtain the Best Possible Terms.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

PEKING, Dec. 30.—The Chinese plenipotentiaries have been unexpectedly ordered to sign the preliminary joint note and have notified the foreign envoys to that effect. The Chinese themselves were greatly

press on Saturday by Major General Henry Colville, whose resignation had been demanded by the War Office but who has refused to resign and has demanded a trial by court-martial, to establish the responsibility for the Yeomany disaster at Londley last May, excites considerable sympathy and a tendency to make further attacks upon the War Office. It is generally conceded that Colville has been harshly treated, but as his statement is ex parte the papers withhold final judgment.

DESIRES THE COURT'S RETURN. Emperor Kwang Su Wishes to End Its Exile From Peking.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—The Havas Agency has received the following dispatch from Peking: "Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang have communicated to the foreign envoys an imperial edict in which the Em-

peror declares that China accepts the joint note and authorizes Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang to negotiate and to ask for a suspension of hostilities."

The Emperor's instructions are to agree fully to the note, but to endeavor to get the best terms possible, particularly in the matter of limiting the number of the legion guards and also as to the places where these are to be located.

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## OMAHA THUGS THREATEN YOUNG CUDAHY'S MURDER IF WARNING IS IGNORED

### Second Letter to the Lad's Father Demands That He Withdraw Reward.

### Declares That if Any Alleged Abductor Be Arrested a Bullet Will Avenge Him

Special Dispatch to The Call.

OMAHA, Dec. 30.—E. A. Cudahy, the millionaire packer, having thought better of his resolution of Sunday that he would not reveal to the public the contents of the second letter he received from the abductors of his son, The Call is now permitted to publish a verbatim copy of that communication. Here is the letter:

"Cudahy: If you value the boy's life at the price of a bullet you will withdraw the reward at once and let well enough alone. If you don't do this we will finish the job with a bullet. If any man whether guilty or innocent is ever arrested a bullet will close the boy's mouth. You will think of this warning when it is to late."

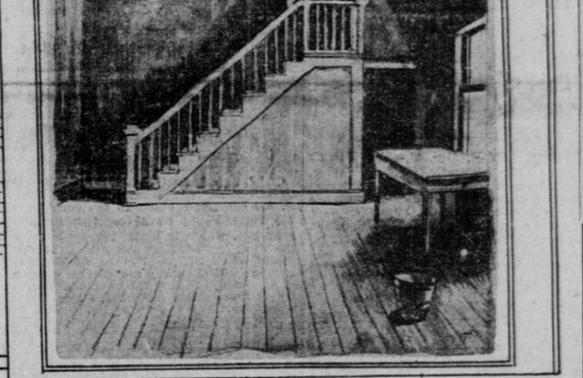
This letter, which was unsigned, was sent through the mails and was addressed as follows: "E. D. Cudahy, 515 South 27th St., City." It was postmarked "Omaha,

lar Bay on Saturday and led him to Point Mills, some miles off. Sheriff Lean apprehended the man eighteen miles south of Houghton this afternoon. There was considerable excitement over the affair, but it is not believed that Sullivan harbored any sinister intentions. He is believed to be mentally deranged.

"ELOISE T." WRITES AGAIN. Renews Her Anonymous Offer to Clear the Mystery.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 30.—The Enquirer has received a second significant letter from "Eloise T.," who now signs herself "Eloise V. Tarrell." In this letter the writer says that she conjectures as to her identity on the part of the Omaha correspondent are wrong, that she is not Lizzie Burns, and that the correspondents are not likely to fathom the mystery of her identity. She also gives reasons for her offer to clear up the Cudahy mystery. "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned"

ROOM TO FLOOR OF WHICH YOUNG CUDAHY WAS CHAINED



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is the quotation she uses to explain her position.

The last letter is dated December 29, and again the woman—if the writer be a woman—gives names and dates that are convincing on the point that she knows enough about the Cudahy abductors to be wanted. Her letters are lengthy and most mysterious in facts, dates and details. Efforts to ascertain who the writer is have proved futile. She keeps well in the background, and evidently considers her position well before intrusting the letters to the mails.

DENOUNCES VON WALTERSEE. Dr. Morrison Accuses the Commander of Duplicitous.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—Writing to the Times from Peking yesterday Dr. Morrison says: "The Chinese have accepted all the conditions of the joint note. They are sending formal acceptance by an envoy, and ask that negotiations should commence forthwith and military operations cease. Li Hung Chang is much better, although greatly shaken."

"Five expeditions are now operating. Every report tells of increasing unrest. The policy of depriving the Chinese of all power to exercise authority is spreading disorder broadcast and forcing peaceful Chinese into opposition."

In a dispatch dated December 28 Dr. Morrison sends a long protest against German harshness, which, he says, is creating instead of checking disorder. He accuses the Germans of punishing the innocent and the guilty indiscriminately in order to levy fines for defraying their own military expenses and to form an excuse for continued hostile oppression. He also charges Count von Waldersee with a breach of faith, on the ground that he gave Li Hung Chang a map defining the area of the occupation in the province of Chih and indicated the district beyond which the allies would not operate, and yet allowed the German troops to inflict severe punishment upon the Chinese at Tsangchau and Yunching, both of which are outside the area.

Repeating his statement that the Germans are preparing for an expedition to Singanfu in the spring and also fomenting trouble in the Yangtze Valley, Dr. Morrison says:

"The question arises whether the occupation should not be set aside to separate the British troops from Count von Waldersee's command."

Tramp Steals a Boy. MARQUETTE, Mich., Dec. 30.—William Sullivan, a tramp, picked up the five-year-old son of Raymond Thiery of Dol-

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## MILES SAYS ALGER SHUNS THE TRUTH

### Accuses Ex-Secretary of Deliberate Falsehood.

### Announces That He Will Reply in Detail to the Statements.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

CALL HEADQUARTERS, 1606 G STREET N. W., WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—"A great many statements that former Secretary of War Alger makes in his article 'The Food of the Army During the Spanish War' are absolutely untrue. The case was tried in the high court of public opinion and the press, and its verdict was given two years ago."

"As to the statements which Mr. Alger makes which are untrue, I cannot discuss them. I do not propose to go into details now. I intend to answer the article, but I will do so in my own time. That is all I care to say now."

This is the answer Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles, commanding the army, consented to make to-day to the charges of General R. A. Alger in his North American Review article. General Miles returned to-day from North Carolina, where he had enjoyed several days' hunting. He read General Alger's article and then went for a drive with Mrs. Miles.

General Miles' determination to answer General Alger is regretted by his immediate official and personal friends. They believe that in the interest of the general and of the army at large he should let General Alger's charges go without comment now, and write a book when he is retired fully dealing with the Spanish war and the beef controversy. General Miles will not, however, wait so long. He will commence the preparation of his reply, and when ready he will make it public.

General Miles deeply regrets that the beef controversy has been revived. He regarded it as closed, his charges in his opinion having been sustained and the country having passed final judgment. General Miles' action after the Spanish war in calling attention to the character of the meats supplied the army was not dictated by any desire to call down public odium upon General Alger or upon General Engan. In fact, he studiously avoided mentioning their names. He feels that as a result of the charges then made and the investigation and publicity which followed there has been a vast improvement in the rations supplied the service, with a corresponding improvement in the health of the soldiers. The beef packers are more careful, the inspection is better and the rations of the troops superior to what it was during the Spanish war.

In his reply to General Alger it is understood the commanding general of the army will not hesitate to publish certain facts which, it is said, will not be creditable to the former Secretary of War. General Miles will take up in detail the charges of General Alger and make a specific answer to each. With respect to General Miles' delay in bringing the facts in connection with the beef furnished to the troops to the attention of the Secretary of War, it is explained that he did not care to make serious charges, which would cause such indignation throughout the country, unless he believed the facts warranted their submission. He therefore instituted a quiet investigation and gave consideration to the reports made to him by subordinate officers. His duty as commanding general required that he should take steps for an investigation as soon as he became convinced that the Government had been defrauded and that the troops had been compelled to eat nauseating food, which was responsible for so much illness. Had he failed to take this action he would have been derelict and unfaithful to the obligations of his position.

Surgeon Daly's delay in submitting his report to General Miles arose from the fact that he became ill after returning from Porto Rico and the necessity of making a careful analysis of the beef which he had secured.

The report of Lieutenant Colonel E. A. Garlington, inspector general, who made a careful investigation of the beef question, sustained General Miles' assertion that the beef was treated with preservatives, and the testimony of officers before the war commission and court of inquiry will also be quoted in substantiation of General Miles' attitude.

STRIKE IS DECLARED OFF. Scranton Car Men Granted Advance of Two Cents an Hour.

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 31.—At 12:45 this morning the street car strike, inaugurated a week ago, was called off. President Clark, General Manager Silliman and two directors of the street car company came to the strikers' hall after the vote to compromise was passed and were received with tumultuous cheers. The men demanded what was equivalent to an advance of 3 cents an hour. They were allowed 2 cents. The men are also allowed a ten-hour day. Three hundred and twenty men were affected.

Will Return to St. Petersburg. ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 30.—Emperor Nicholas, according to very recent information from a member of the imperial family, will arrive here from Moscow about the end of January.

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