

REGULARS AND BOXERS LINE UP TO FIGHT

Mustering of Chinese Forces Along the Railway Between Peking and Paotingfu.

Emperor Approves Demands of the Powers and an Armistice for Ten Days Declared

PARIS, Jan. 1.—The Havas Agency has received the following dispatch from Peking: "A mustering of regulars and boxers is reported in the suburbs and along the railway between Peking and Paotingfu. The French and German posts have been doubled to avoid surprise."

AN ARMISTICE PROCLAIMED. But the Powers Do Not Admit Existence of War With China.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—A dispatch to the Pall Mall Gazette from Peking, dated Sunday, December 30, says an armistice has been proclaimed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The officials here are puzzled to account for the announcement of this armistice before the Chinese answer which asked for it has been received by the Ministers at Peking, for they assume that answer was not received until last night.

It is suggested that the rather vigorous expressions of dissatisfaction by some of the powers at the prosecution of these military raids upon Chinese who are showing no disposition to attack foreigners may have had some effect, at least. The State Department sent a strong instruction to Minister Conger directly in line with the Chinese request for a suspension of military excursions.

CHINA ACCEPTS DEMANDS.

At the Same Time the Emperor Desires to Stop Military Expeditions.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The State Department received a dispatch from Minister Conger at Peking, dated yesterday, announcing that the Chinese plenipotentiaries have notified the representatives of the powers the Emperor decrees the acceptance of their demands as a whole, and Prince Ching requests a further conference. They also desire that military expeditions to the interior cease.

NEWSPAPER MEN GRIN AT MR. HARMSWORTH

Radical Changes in the World's Appearance Made by the London Editor.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—Newspaper workers on Park Row wear a broad grin this morning over the very odd appearance of the new century World, which is published for this day only by Alfred Harmsworth, proprietor of the London Daily Mail, in accordance with his advanced ideas of new century journalism.

Mr. Harmsworth cheerfully walked into the managing editor's office at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon and the paper became his. In fifteen minutes he had the paper decapitated, cast aside the display type, annihilated subeditors, massacred the ubiquitous treak and put the art department out of commission practically.

This last request is in accordance with the views of the President.

In diplomatic quarters the acceptance given by the Chinese envoys is regarded as a most ingenious stroke of diplomacy. Among diplomatic quarters it is said that this is not an unconditional acceptance, although it is such a concurrence in the general principle of the note that the powers cannot well set it aside. It appears to be directed toward reopening the word "irrevocable" and securing more definite and, if possible, more moderate conditions on some of the points involved.

FLEEING CHINESE PURSUED.

One Foreign Column Seized Abandoned Munitions of War.

BERLIN, Dec. 31.—Count von Walderssee reports to the War Office under date of Peking, December 25:

"The Chinese who fled south were pursued by Irid's squadron to Sekien, southwest of Peking, where the Chinese scattered. Grueberg's column seized great quantities of munitions, quick-firing and Krupp guns, Maxim rifles, etc., at Sinnan Chen, twenty-one kilometers east of Paotingfu, which had been abandoned by the fleeing Chinese."

CHAFFEE'S CASUALTY LIST.

American Commander Sends Names of Troops Who Have Died.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—General Chaffee's latest casualty list is as follows:

TIENTSIN, Dec. 29.—Adjutant General, Washington: The following casualties have occurred since last report: December 22, at Peking, George Bell, Ninth Infantry, pneumonia.

December 27, Corporal Charles Cooper, Sixth Cavalry, gunshot wound, left thigh.

December 25, Frank Chaplin, Ninth Infantry, pneumonia. CHAFFEE.

PLANNING THE RECEPTION TO PRESIDENT MCKINLEY

Acres of Flowers Will Be Planted in Santa Clara County to Be Used in Decorations.

SAN JOSE, Dec. 31.—Preparations for a floral fete in honor of President McKinley's visit to California in May will commence the present week. The President will be invited to spend a day in San Jose and the citizens here propose to give him a reception in the shape of a flower carnival that could be equaled nowhere else on earth.

A meeting of the executive committee has been called for Friday evening. Plans for the event will then be perfected. Santa Clara County will be carpeted with orchard blossoms in May and the roses and other flowers of the gardens will be at their best.

CONTRIVERSY OVER ASPHALT IS GROWING

Venezuelan Government Ignores Protests Forwarded From Officials at Washington.

CURACAO, Island of Curacao, Dec. 31, via Haytian cable.—The diplomatic controversy over the rival asphalt interests in Venezuela is approaching an acute stage. The Venezuelan Government ignores the protests of Washington against the semi-official conspiracy to deprive the New York and Bermudez Company illegally of the Bermudez asphalt lake. Minister Loomis at Caracas is striving for a peaceful settlement of the dispute.

DELVING FOR DIAMONDS IN NEW MEXICO

Recent Discovery of the Precious Gems Causes a Big Rush.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 31.—The recent discovery of several large diamonds in the foothills near Capitan, Otero County, New Mexico, has created intense excitement in this city among mining men, and prospectors are flocking to that locality. The first discovery of four diamonds was made by the merest accident. J. J. Blow, general manager of the Linderman Coal Company, noticed the stones in an anthill on the surface of the ground, where they had been deposited by the large red insects. He was convinced that the gems were diamonds, and took them to a local jeweler for examination.

Blow investigated further at the spot where he found the jewels, and at a depth of twelve feet uncovered a bed of precious stones, collecting twenty from the sand. The news of the discovery created the greatest excitement in the small village of Capitan, causing many miners to quit their positions to prospect for diamonds, and when the report reached El Paso it immediately started a rush of prospectors to the Capitan district.

WHAT WILL THE ANSWER BE?



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GIACOPINI'S COMET OBSERVED AT LICK

It is a Faint Object and Its Distance From the Earth Is Constantly Increasing.

LICK OBSERVATORY, Dec. 31.—The comet recently discovered by Giovanni Giacopini at Nice, France, in the constellation of Tethis has been observed here the past week by Mr. Aitken. It is a faint object of the eleventh magnitude and therefore requires a telescope of considerable size to observe it.

POPE CELEBRATES MIDNIGHT MASS

His Holiness Ushe's in the New Century in His Private Chapel.

ROME, Jan. 1.—The Pope celebrated midnight mass in his private chapel. Cardinal Rampolla, Papal Secretary of State, celebrated at St. Peter's Cathedral, where there was a huge crowd in spite of the rain.

MILES ADVISED NOT TO REPLY TO GEN. ALGER

Should He Do So the Commanding General May Lose His Rank.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

CALL BUREAU, 106 G STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Secretary Root has strongly advised Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles not to answer the articles of former Secretary of War Russell A. Alger on the Miles-Eagan beef controversy. It is rumored—but the rumor is denied by high officials—that an ultimatum has been given to General Miles that if he does not answer to General Alger he will be construed as an attack on the commissary department, and will be followed by proceedings which may result in his relief from command of the army.

SIoux CHIEF TWO STRIKE'S LIFE CLOSING

Implacable Foe of White Man and Pawnee Is Dying.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

CALL BUREAU, 106 G STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Two Strike, the noted chief of the Sioux Indians and implacable foe of the white man and Pawnee Indians, is dying. Information has been received at the Bureau of Indian Affairs that the old warrior is lying at the point of death at Pine Ridge agency.

MORE THAN FORTY-SIX TONS OF GOLD ASSAYED

Record of the Last Year's Work in the Government Office at Seattle.

SEATTLE, Dec. 31.—At the close of business hours for the nineteenth century and the year 1900 this afternoon Assayer Fred A. Wing of the United States assay office at Seattle said that in the past twelve months his receipts at the office have been forty-six and one-eighth tons of gold and silver. The total quantity of gold for the year was 1,345,123.41 troy ounces, with an assay value of \$2,088,735.12, and it represented the individual deposits of 7106 persons. More than \$18,000,000 came from the Klondike and the remainder from other parts of Alaska, British Columbia, Washington and other States.

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INVASION OF CAPE COLONY CAUSES ALARM

Loyalists Are Appealed To in the Attempt to Resist the Advancing Boers.

Meanwhile Kruger Importunes Powers of Europe to Stop the South African War.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—The Boers have now reached a point half way between the Orange River and Cape Town; and, in spite of optimism of the London press, the Government announcement at Cape Town shows how seriously the invasion is regarded there. The only thing that really touches the British public is the loss of a big naval gun. The Times to-day, however, draws attention to what might prove a serious danger, namely, the possibility of another outbreak of enteric fever among the soldiers worn down by the hardships and privations of a prolonged and exciting campaign.

It is now ascertained that the Boers who trekked westward from Vryburg and who were supposed to be going to Damaraland are making for the Prieska district of Cape Colony. A dispatch from Cradock says: "The Boers burned empty goods train near Rosemead Junction. The authorities at Rosemead have sent the women and children away to Cradock. It is reported that a commando has crossed the line and is making toward Middleburg."

Mr. Kruger is again importuning Queen Wilhelmina, says the correspondent of the Daily Mail at The Hague, to write personal letters to Emperor Nicholas, President Loubet and Emperor William with a view to stopping the war. It is reported that the Queen is not unwilling, but The Netherlands Ministry is divided.

BOERS DAMAGE A RAILWAY.

Kitchener's Troops Worried by Rapid Tactics of the Republicans.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—Lord Kitchener in a dispatch to the War Office dated December 31 says:

"A small portion of the enemy's force which entered the colony to the east broke away in a southwestern direction and crossed the railway at a point between Bangor and Sherborne. They did some damage to the railway. The column under Williams will be in touch with this body to-day.

"The force which entered the colony to the west passed the road from Carnarvon to Victoria west at 7 o'clock yesterday morning. They were going south and were closely followed by Thorneycroft and Delisle.

"Very few recruits from the colony joined the enemy. Hertog's men are already dropping their worn horses."

READY TO REPEL INVASION.

Cape Government Calls Upon Loyalists to Lend Aid.

CAPE TOWN, Dec. 31.—The Cape Government has called upon the Loyalists in various educational institutions in Cape Town, to assist the military to repel invasion by the formation of a paid force.

In a preamble to the call the Government announces the situation as follows: "Owing to the fact that the armed forces of the enemy have penetrated south of Carnarvon in the west and south of Middelburg in the east it is necessary to repel the invasion promptly, and the Government calls upon loyal inhabitants to aid the military in this duty by the formation of a colonial force for the sole and exclusive purpose of repelling invasion, guarding lines of communication and maintaining order in the disturbed districts. Volunteers should enroll with the civil commissioners in their respective districts. They will be paid 5 shillings per day, with rations, forage, arms and horses. The term of service is not expected to exceed three months. This notice especially applies to the districts named in it, but other districts may assist. Enlistment will begin Thursday."

TRAPPED BY BOGUS TELEGRAM.

Boer Strategy Caused the Undoing of General Colville.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—Since his arrival in London, Major General Sir Henry Colville has received information tending to show that Lieutenant Colonel Sprague actually received a forged telegram, purporting to be signed by General Colville, dated Lindley, May 23, saying:

"I am badly in want of mounted troops. Come here at once."

The above telegram was sent off three days before General Colville reached Lindley and was the cause of Lieutenant Colonel Sprague hastening there.

One of the principal charges against General Colville is that, after appealing to the Yeomanry for help, he abandoned them to their fate.

"I never heard of this telegram," says General Colville, "until now. But it explains the mystery of my alleged message to Colonel Sprague. It was known at the time that some one was tampering with the wires near Lindley in the interest of the Boers."

General Colville reported himself at the War Office to-day.

General Sir Evelyn Wood, adjutant general, merely sent a subordinate to meet the general.

HELVETIA POST SURPRISED.

Kitchener's Version of the Disaster to the British Troops.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—General Kitchener, telegraphing from Pretoria, Sunday, December 30, says:

"The post at Helvetia was surprised at 2:30 a. m., the enemy first rushing a 4.7-inch gun. At dawn the officer commanding the post at Swartzkopje sent out a patrol and shelled the enemy out of Helvetia, making them abandon the gun temporarily. The Boers, however, formed our prisoners around the gun and got away eventually. No ammunition belonging to the gun was captured. The casualties were four officers wounded, eleven men killed and twenty-two wounded. A column was sent out from Machadorp, but, owing to the bad roads, it failed to arrive in time."

LENTZ MAKES OPEN CHARGES OF BRIBERY

Contests Tompkins' Right to a Seat and Attacks the Administration.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 31.—Congressman Lentz to-day served formal notice on Congressman-elect Tompkins that he would contest the latter's seat in the House on charges of wholesale bribery and fraud in the county.

In his notice of contest addressed to Tompkins, Lentz says:

"I claim and shall prove that your alleged plurality of 18 votes was obtained by bribery, debauchery and corruption of voters; seducing certain students in various educational institutions in the district to remain here and vote for you without having any legal right to vote in this district; by inducing many of the employes connected with the various State institutions located in this city to remain here and vote for you, although their voting residence was in some other district in the State; by importing and colonizing voters in this district for the purpose of having them vote in your behalf and against myself.

"In your alleged plurality of 18 votes out of a total of 51,392 votes cast in the district, you are the beneficiary of the methods and proceedings aforesaid, as well as the beneficiary of manifest errors in the count and return of votes, and divers and sundry illegalities and irregularities."

Mr. Lentz then sets forth in detail the specific grounds of contest, alleging that a systematic plan of campaign was projected by the Republican leaders connected with the administration at Washington and "that a large corruption fund, amounting to many thousands of dollars, was procured by men residing beyond the boundary of this district and sent into this district with the determination to secure your election and encompass my defeat by bribery, because certain Republican leaders connected with the national administration at Washington feared the effect of my exposure of the meaning of the Egan pardon by President McKinley, my exposure of President McKinley's misrepresentations as to the conditions of the Philippines; of President McKinley's use of the United States army to intimidate and destroy union labor in the Coeur d'Alene district of Idaho and President McKinley's appointment of Orson Smith and J. C. Graham, polygamist Postmasters at Logan and Provo City, Utah, and my criticism of President McKinley's ratification of the treaty permitting slavery and polygamy in the Sulu Islands, a part of the Philippine archipelago; and my exposure of President McKinley's appointment of Rufus W. Lane as Consul to Smyrna immediately following and in consideration of his voting for Marcus A. Hanna for United States Senator, although said Rufus Lane was elected to the Legislature of Ohio on the Democratic ticket; also on account of my exposure of President McKinley's treatment of Secretary of State John Sherman." He alleges that William Burns, assistant chief of the United States secret service, participated in the bribery and debauchery of voters in a scheme to elect Tompkins, and that he was assisted by various other agents of the Federal Government.

Specific instances of bribery are alleged, but the names of the persons alleged to have received the bribes are not given.

There are in all twenty-nine specifications, alleging bribery, illegal voting and other irregularities.

Date of Wilhelmina's Marriage. THE HAGUE, Dec. 31.—The marriage of Queen Wilhelmina to Duke Henry of Mecklenburg-Schwerin has been officially fixed for February 7, 1901.