

A CHRISTMAS CALM

THAT IS WHAT APPEARS TO BE HOVERING OVER BOERS AND BRITISH

ARMIES RESTING ON THEIR ARMS

GOVERNMENT STILL REFUSES TO ACCEPT THE SERVICES OF THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT

ALL QUIET AT MODDER RIVER

Though at the Front a Crisis Is Expected Soon—English Press Admits That, Man for Man, Britons Have Found Their Equal, and That 100,000 Additional Men Are Needed to Suppress the Boers.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The war office has received a cablegram from Gen. Forster-Walker, dated at Cape Town, saying: "I have no further news of the general situation."

It may be almost safely predicted that nothing will occur today. A truce, either formal or informal, is being kept for the observance of Christmas by the opposing forces.

The Duke of Connaught has again pressed to be allowed to go to the front, but the government declined to give its assent. Then, waiving considerations of rank he offered his services to Lord Roberts in any capacity as a staff officer. Lord Roberts consented, but the government again declined.

The Morning Post's correspondent at Chieveley, telegraphing on Monday, Dec. 18, and confirming intelligence already tabled, says: "At dawn today the column struck camp and formed a new one three miles to the south, owing to the scarcity of water."

A dispatch from Modder River, dated Dec. 18, says: "The Boers continue extending their trenches. They now have nearly twenty miles of entrenched works due north of the British camp, which also is in an admirable position for defense, as the surrounding country is perfectly level. The Boers, however, are compelled to keep a force estimated at 20,000 in order to contain the British column. A large number of Lord Methuen's wounded have recovered, and are ready to resume their places in the ranks."

A dispatch to the Daily News from Modder River, dated Dec. 18, says: "We are now waiting until England shall have realized the actual facts. It has to be admitted that, man for man, we have found ourselves pretty well matched, but the Boers have always the choice of positions. England has to become alive to the need of cavalry. The Canadian colonel, Ruschard, has been appointed to Gen. French's staff. It is rumored that the government from Bloemfontein to Winburg, the former being indefensible."

Dr. Leyds, who has been again interviewed, asserts that the Boers have ample arms and ammunition, declaring that they have mastered every burgher two and an equal number of Martini-Henrys.

The morning papers are severely criticizing the fact that Gen. Sir Charles Warren's fifth division is being utilized to reinforce various points, instead of being concentrated at one.

RECONCENTRATED ORDER. CAPE TOWN, Dec. 18 (delayed in transmission).—Gen. Gatacre, in order to carry out a reorganization among the Dutch colonists and to prevent disaffected persons giving information or other assistance to the Boers, has issued a modified reconcentrated order. By its terms all males of over twelve years of age, whatever nationality, residing outside the towns or villages within a radius of twelve miles of military camps, now established or to be established, are required to vacate their places of residence and either remove to some place outside the twelve-mile radius, or to form a camp in close proximity to the nearest military camp—the spot to be selected by the officer commanding—where they must reside until further notice, providing for their own needs. All persons under sixteen years of age are to be arrested.

Advices from Colesburg assert that not many colonial Dutch have joined the Boers in that district. Certain remnants of Malmesbury celebrated Gen. Gatacre's repulse at Stormberg by a dinner.

SIRDAR SAILS. MALTA, Dec. 24.—Gen. Lord Kitchener, chief of staff to Gen. Lord Roberts, arrived here today from Alexandria on the British second-class cruiser, the British cruiser Dido, which sailed for Gibraltar, where he will join Lord Roberts.

PRO-BOER PLANS. Irish-Americans Said to Be Anxious to Aid the Transvaal.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 24.—The Bee will say tomorrow: There is something more than a likelihood that the pro-Boer agitation, now so general throughout the United States, will lead to the resuscitation of the once celebrated organization among Irish-Americans known as the Fenians, which planned and executed an invasion of Canada in 1866, out of hatred of England for the wrong that for 700 years has been inflicted upon Ireland.

Intimations have reached Omaha from other cities that an address, calling for a renewal of the Fenian organization and the Clan-na-Gael, had been sent from this city to enthusiastic Irish-Americans in other places, but inquiry among prominent Irishmen failed to disclose the identity of any persons who may have sent out such an address. As far as could be learned there are no organized branches of the societies named in this city, although there are some men in Omaha who were proud of their membership in the Fenian organization.

Inquiry, however, did develop the fact that there is some sort of a secret movement on foot among the Irish enthusiasts in this and neighboring cities which has for its object some decisive steps of a more belated character toward England than a simple declaration of sympathy for the Boers far away in South Africa. The movement here will be inaugurated by a meeting to be held on Sunday, when some measures are expected to be taken.

Interviews with a number of Irish-Americans, who pretended at least that they knew nothing of the movement, dis-

GROWS IN HORROR

THE NUMBER OF DEAD IN MINE DISASTER IS ESTIMATED AT FORTY

SENSATIONAL STORY TOLD

MINERS, IT IS SAID, GIVEN AUTHORITY TO WORK WITH NAKED LIGHTS

EXPLOSIONS FORCE TERRIBLE

No Hope for Any of the Men Who Are Still in the Mine—A Dozen Bodies Recovered from the Shaft and as Many More Are in Sight in the Debris—Bodies of the Dead Horribly Mutilated.

BROWNSVILLE, Pa., Dec. 24.—The horror of the Brazenell mine disaster grows in intensity with every hour. The number of the dead is now estimated at forty and may pass that figure. At the same time there is a strong presumption that the laws regulating mining were carelessly, and, probably, criminally disregarded.

Today the first bodies of the victims were brought out of the mine, and eleven human beings were horribly mutilated. It was nearly 11 o'clock before the first bodies were taken out, twenty-eight hours after the explosion. At 5:30 three were brought to the surface, and at 6:30 three more came up in the cage of the main shaft. The dead taken from the mine so far are:

- HENRY HAGAR, thirty years old, leaves wife and six children.
- PETER ORSHAN, thirty-three, leaves wife and four children.
- MICHAEL ROHTELL, twenty-four, single.
- SAMUEL MEISE, thirty-nine, leaves wife and three children.
- ALBERT MEISE, thirteen, died after being rescued yesterday.
- MICHAEL MAHIO, twenty-eight, leaves wife and two children.
- GEORGE KOVITZ, forty, single.
- JOS. POSTKY, twenty-two, leaves wife.
- JOS. MAGYAR, nineteen, single.
- FRANK MLOK, thirty-three, leaves wife and two children.
- PAUL PROLOK, twenty-four, wife and one child.
- MICHAEL PARAHEK, twenty-four, leaves wife and one child.
- ANDREW PARAHEK, twenty-four, leaves wife and one child.
- PAUL LAUNDRIS, twenty-four, leaves wife and one child.
- THOMAS KUTLIK, twenty-four, leaves wife and one child.
- ANDREW TORSZIKI, twenty-four, leaves wife and one child.

ESTIMATES CONFLICTING.

The estimates of the number of the dead are conflicting. A. B. Bruzenell, president of the Stockdale Coal company, this afternoon said he believed but twenty to twenty-five men had been killed. Men who were working around the mine yesterday morning give different figures. They say that about forty men were down the mine shaft in the cage, while about twenty climbed down the steps in the elevator shaft. From fifty-five to sixty men were in the mine, and of this number but twelve have been recovered alive. All the rest, whatever the number, "Jonah" Meese, is one of the thirteen men who escaped from the mine alive. He is fearfully burned and is lying at his home with his head swathed in bandages. He told his story today:

"I was in the stable," Meese said, "currying my mule when the explosion occurred. My brother Sam was by my side, and his boy Albert was standing in front of him. Then came the crack of the explosion. I thought my head had been blown off. In about a second the mine was filled with dazzling light, as the fine coal dust in the air was consumed. My brother Sam dropped to the ground as if shot through the heart. He must have been killed instantly. His boy Albert swayed and fell over upon his face. I began to back out of the stable, but I was so terrified that I did not know what to do. I was afraid to turn my back upon the mine, and I did not know where to go. I had all been killed by the explosion, for our lamps were blown out and we were in total darkness."

"After I got out of the stable I heard Albert crying for help. I went back and found him and Henry Atwood, a driver. I proceeded, half carrying them to the delirious and I believe I was, and began to walk around. I immediately forced them to lie down, to get them out of the path of the fatal explosion, which hovered about four feet above the ground. Then I felt myself going to sleep, but I did not care, although I realized that I was the sleep of death. I laid down upon something which I could feel, although I could not see, was a corpse and fell asleep as calmly as ever I did in my life. When I awoke somebody was forcing me to swallow brandy and coffee, and I was trying to explain that it would be needless for me to drive a wagon, as there had been an accident in the mine."

"The force of the explosion was terrific; my face and scalp are literally filled with coal dust, just as if it had been shot out of a gun held within a few inches."

Another evidence of the force of the explosion was discovered today. In the hill-side, fifty feet back from the main shaft, were discovered an arm and a foot. They were portions of a victim killed 300 feet below the surface and blown out of the shaft like a bullet from a rifle.

PRESENCE OF GAS.

From statements obtained today it seems clear that the presence of gas in quantities in the mine was perfectly well known, and that naked lights were used for several days before the explosion. According to credible authority not a single safety lamp was used in the mine by the working crews since last Tuesday morning, four days before the explosion.

Fire Boss James Katteloff, whose duty it was to look after the safety of the mine, and upon whose care and intelligence the lives of the diggers depended, in a large degree, told his story. Katteloff has not yet recovered from his narrow escape from death. The fire boss said: "I believe that the explosion was caused by a sudden fall, which occurred just before the explosion. I do not believe there was enough gas in the mine to be dangerous. As a matter of fact the coal itself gives off little gas, but the gas comes chiefly from the roof of the mine. After the explosion I went into the mine

HASTINGS BURNING

THE ENTIRE TOWN THREATENED BY A MIDNIGHT BLAZE

COURT HOUSE AFIRE TWICE

BUT THE FIREMEN HAVE SUCCEEDED IN KEEPING THE FLAMES SUPPRESSED

AID IS SENT FROM ST. PAUL

Two Engines Left on the Milwaukee Road at 3:30 This Morning—The Town Is Filled With Sparks and Burning Cinders, and the Worst Is Feared—R. C. Libbey Lumber Co.'s Yards a Complete Loss.

At 2:50 this morning a telegraph and telephone message was received from Hastings that the entire town was threatened by fire, asking for assistance from the St. Paul fire department.

The local department immediately responded, and at 3 o'clock had Engines No. 4 and No. 9 at the Milwaukee depot in answer to the call, and the train was immediately gotten ready to depart for Hastings. Nothing definite could be learned as to how serious the fire might be.

A later telephone message to the Globe from Hastings reported that the fire was very serious, and that the entire town

WANTS HIS INDIANS.

Col. Cody Will Protest Against the Order of Mr. Jones.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 24.—"Buffalo Bill," Col. W. F. Cody, passed through Omaha today en route to Washington to urge the Indian commissioner to rescind his recent order prohibiting Indians from leaving the reservations to travel with shows. Col. Cody combats the argument used by the commissioner that the Indians are demoralized by being out on the road with shows. He says the experiences they meet with in their travel better fit them to adopt the manners and customs of the white man than does life on the reservation. He claims that the Redskins are benefited rather than injured as members of traveling organizations which portray life on the plains.

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BULLETIN OF IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY

Weather Forecast for St. Paul. Fair and Cold.

1-Holy Year Opened. Disaster at Sea. Mine Victims Recovered. South African War News.

2-Christmas Celebrations. Busy City Sleuths. Poker Game Halts.

3-Minneapolis Matters. Northwest News. Cubans More Cheerful.

4-Editorial. Otis to Be Recalled.

5-Farm and Household.

6-Week's Markets Reviewed. Berlin Money Market. Great Run of Luck.

7-Popular Wants.

8-In the Field of Labor. Address to Labor. Sermon on Civilization. Meeting of Teachers. Christmas Presents Banned.

OCEAN LINERS.

NEW YORK—Arrived: Asaita, Genoa; Montclair, London.

MOBILE—Arrived: Numidian, Portland; for Liverpool.

QUEENSTOWN—Sailed: Tauric, New York.

TODAY IN ST. PAUL.

METROPOLITAN—"Phroso," 2:30 and 8:15 p. m.

GRAND—High class vaudeville, 8 and 8:15 p. m.

Palm Garden—Vaudeville, 2 and 8 p. m.

Olympic—Vaudeville, 2:30 and 8:15 p. m.

Skating rinks, Como park, 2 p. m.

Damnacus and Paladin commedies.

High school section, Minnesota Educational association, banquet, Ryan hotel, 8 p. m.

SAFAR IN THE SEA

TWENTY-ONE OF CREW OF STEAMSHIP ARIOSTO VICTIMS OF GALE

SMALL BOATS WRECKED

SHIP STRANDED ON CAPE HATTERAS, AND THOSE WHO ABANDONED HER DIED

NINE SAILORS RESCUED

Taken Off by the Crew of the Ocracoke Life Saving Station—Work of Rescue One of Extreme Difficulty, Owing to the Heavy Sea—Possible That the Vessel May Be Saved.

CAPE HENRY, Va., Dec. 24.—The British steamship Ariosto, Capt. Baines, from Galveston to Norfolk for coal, thence to Hamburg, loaded with cotton, corn, wheat and meal, stranded on Ocracoke beach, six miles south of the Hatteras weather bureau office, at 4 o'clock this morning. The steamship carried a crew of thirty men.

Twenty-one men abandoned the steamer and took to the boats soon after she stranded. The boats were wrecked in the heavy seas and the entire twenty-one were drowned.

Capt. Baines and the remaining eight men were taken from the ship today by the Ocracoke life-saving station. The rescue was effected with difficulty owing to the heavy sea, the landing taking almost the entire day.

Capt. Baines and the eight surviving members of the crew are now being cared for at the Ocracoke life-saving station. Some water is making in the hold of the vessel, but she is still in good condition, and probably can be saved if prompt assistance is rendered.

WORST WRECK IN YEARS.

The Ariosto wreck is the worst on these shores since the German ship Elizabeth were drowned in 1876, when fifty-five people

Thick fogs have prevailed along the Virginia and North Carolina coast for several days and a number of vessels have narrowly escaped destruction. Last night, however, the fog was clear, but the wind averaged from forty to fifty miles an hour, and the sea was furious around the point which has been designated as "the graveyard of American shipping."

The coast patrol from Ocracoke was returning to the station about 4 o'clock this morning when he discovered a big ship ashore. He immediately lighted a signal to notify those aboard of his position. He discovered, and ran to the aid of, to arouse those of the life-savers who were not on duty.

Against the fierce wind the life-savers then dragged the heavy apparatus, consisting of the life gun, breeches and life car, and it was almost daylight when they reached the scene of the wreck. They could see the outlines of a big steamer, but could not accomplish anything until daybreak.

The wind caught up particles of sand which were blown into the faces of the life-savers until their cheeks were cut as if by a rawhide.

SAILORS SEEN.

When daylight broke the sailors were seen huddled together on the wrecked ship, waving their arms in an appeal to be saved. To launch a boat in such a sea would have meant instant death, so the life-savers placed their gun in position and fired.

The Ariosto was some six hundred feet out and the line fell short. Another line was fired to the straggled ship, but all failed to reach. In the meantime the waves were casting over the ship and Capt. Baines called his men together for a council, explaining to them that the chances were against their waiting for the life saving crew to fire a line on board. As far as he was concerned, the captain would rather wait for the life savers, but he left it to the crew to decide among themselves. Eight of the sailors said they would stick by the captain, and about twenty of them declared they would go if they remained on board, and they left the ship in small boats. All of them lost their lives.

The boat in which the twenty-one men put up was one of the regular life boats. It was strong in ordinary weather, but a creaky shell in such a sea. The ship was tossed heavily, and with difficulty it was swung from the davits. The twenty-one men in their excitement made no preparation for the overturning of the craft, and one by one they clambered in haste to go to their deaths.

Capt. Baines and the remaining eight men from their perilous position watched the little boat off, shouting luck to the departing sailors.

ALL MET DEATH.

Tossing about on the great waves, the sailors pulling a strong stroke, the boat seemed in a fair way of reaching shore, when a wave swept with mighty force on the little craft, engulfing it. The twenty-one men were thrown into the sea, and although they were in a state of consciousness of the disaster, they were powerless to render aid. The sea swalloped the unfortunate men, only for an instant, for they appeared high on the crest of the wave, making a last desperate effort for their lives. Finally, one by one, they sank out of sight.

Capt. Baines, on the wrecked vessel, saw his men perish—this mariner, who had sailed the world over for twenty-five years—wrept like a child.

LIFE LINE SECURED.

Meantime the Ocracoke life-saving crew stood its ground, and continued firing lines to the stranded ship. About four hours after the ship first struck a life line was cast over the ship's side. Capt. Baines and his remaining men made it fast, and an hour later they had dragged the big hawser aboard. The life-savers slowly ran out the breeches buoy and it reached the ship in safety. Through the blinding spray the men were seen, one by one, hauled to shore more dead than alive, and by night fall all were safe.

When the disaster was made known here wrecking tugs started for the scene, and it is a matter of time against time if they succeeded in reaching the scene before the vessel goes to pieces.

AID FOR THE SHIP.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Supt. Kimball tomorrow will instruct Lieut. Johnson, of the revenue cutter Service, who is attached to his office, to proceed to the scene of the wreck and make a report of the circumstances attending the loss of life. This is the practice always followed by the life saving service when there is loss of life attending an accident to a



Oom Paul (at his Christmas Dinner)—I am Very Sorry My Friend is to Drop in Today.

THE HOLY DOOR OPEN

IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY AT THE VATICAN CONDUCTED BY THE POPE IN PERSON

SHOWED SIGNS OF FATIGUE

ROME, Dec. 21.—The pope solemnly inaugurated the holy year by performing the impressive ceremony of opening the holy door of St. Peter's cathedral at 11 o'clock this morning. The ceremony was performed in the vestibule, which was handsomely decorated, in the presence of the papal officers, the members of the diplomatic corps, leading representatives of the Roman nobility and a number of specially invited guests.

In the vestibule the pope throne had been erected. The supreme pontiff ascended the throne, was immediately surrounded by cardinals and dignitaries.

Suddenly a heavy bell boomed. The pope rose and walked toward the holy door. Cardinal Mgr. Serafino Vannutelli, prefect of the congregation of bishops, met him and handed him a golden mallet, given by the Italian bishop, Leo, wearing the mitre, uttered the verses of the liturgy and struck three blows with the hammer on the door, which had previously been cut with a saw.

A few moments of solemn silence followed, the pope and the papal dignitaries in their state robes being grouped before the door. Then the latter swung back, and the officials of St. Peter's laved the threshold and door posts with holy water, while Leo opened the psalm "Jubilate Deo," which was taken up by the pontifical choir.

The pope, having again covered his head and holding in his right hand a crucifix and in his left a lighted candle, knelt at the threshold amid the strains of the "Te Deum." Rising to his feet, he stepped alone within the portals of the vast and empty basilica. The cardinals and others followed.

At this moment all the church bells in Rome rang and Leo stopped before the altar of Michael Angelo, where the janitors of the holy door for the coming year "kissed" his feet. He addressed a few words to them on the importance of the ceremony, and then proceeded to the altar, where the sacrament was offered followed by a short prayer. Then advancing to the high altar he pronounced a solemn benediction according to plenary indulgences.

By a quarter past 1 he had returned to his private apartments, having performed the ceremonies with great apparent satisfaction. He was smiling throughout, but grew pale and showed signs of fatigue toward the end. Nevertheless he gave the three blows upon the door with considerable force.

The St. Paul engines left the city at 3:30.

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