

NOT MUCH WAR NEWS

Reported Fighting at Molteno So Far Unconfirmed.

METHUEN TO FLANK BOERS.

French's Movement Supposed to Be Part of This Plan.

BULLER EXPECTED TO ADVANCE.

Big Developments, It is Said, May Be Looked For To-Day—British Lose a Supply Train—Boers Aids Boer Prisoners.

LONDON, January 4.—(4:30 A. M.)—There is a complete absence of anything new from the seat of war.

Apparently, General French holds nothing within five miles of Colerberg Junction. His request for reinforcements dispels any present hope that he will be able to push on the crossing of the Orange river.

It is expected that when Lord Roberts arrives General French will be ordered to quit his present unsupported position and to concentrate his command at De Aar or Orange river.

As the Daily Telegraph says, "General French seems to be in the position of a man having a tiger-cat in a trap and being unable to kill it for want of a stick."

PILCHER BACK IN SAFETY.

A dispatch from Dover Farm announces that Lieutenant-Colonel Pilcher has returned there safely from Douglas.

Since Commandant-General Joubert's return to the front, the cannonade of Ladysmith by the Boers has been much livelier. Between December 13th and December 20th four shells killed one officer and thirteen men, and wounded thirteen officers and eleven men.

The War Office acknowledges the inferiority of the regular artillery, by authorizing the equipment of the new battery attached to the London Volunteer Corps with Vickers and Maxim guns, some of which the Boers use, and by ordering 50 of these 12-pounder quick-firers built. The officers and men of the new battery will be supplied from the Honorable Artillery Company.

Eight additional militia regiments have been called out. Seven of these will serve in Ireland, replacing the regulars sent to South Africa.

MARLBOROUGH MAY NOT GO. LONDON, January 3.—At Lord Chamberlain's headquarters a reporter of the Associated Press was informed that the Duke of Marlborough's offer to accompany the Oxfordshire Yeomanry to South Africa has not been accepted.

It is further said that it is quite likely he will not go to South Africa, as he already has a wife and family, and his successful passing of the medical examination is doubtful.

The Fall-Ma Gazette today announces that the late Mr. Churchill has been appointed as squadron leader in the South African Horse.

BOERS ATTACK MOLTENO. STERKSTROM, CAPE COLONY, January 3.—Morning.—The Boers attacked Molteno this morning. A brisk action ensued in progress.

FIGHTING AROUND COLEBERG. NAIPOORT, CAPE COLONY, January 3.—There was brisk fighting to-day in the hills around Coleberg. The Boers stubbornly resisted the British at every point, but gradually were driven back. The British held the extreme position to the south and east, overlooking the town.

LAUFALHA SHOT SHOT DEAD. The hills around Coleberg are numerous, not in ranges, but in groups, making very difficult to hunt the Boers out. Sixteen wounded have arrived at Adum.

BIG DEVELOPMENTS TO-DAY. LONDON, January 3.—A special dispatch from Naipooort, dated Tuesday, January 2d, says the British command Newport bridge, with two guns, and also command the Coleberg bridge, and that the Boers have no way to retreat, except by way of Nornberg.

THE DISPATCH ADDS THAT big developments are expected to-morrow.

SITUATION AT KIMBERLEY. KIMBERLEY, December 26.—The Boers have not advanced considerably west in the Premier mine, using their searchlights. This morning they actively shelled the fort. The Royal Artillery replied. Our shells were well placed, and dropped in the middle of the enemy's guns. Last night's storm killed some of our military lines, but there were no casualties.

Cecil Rhodes has supplied the Boer prisoners with new clothing.

BRITISH SUPPLY TRAIN LOST. LONDON, January 3.—A special dispatch from Rensberg, dated Tuesday, January 2d, says a supply train, without a locomotive, was set on motion within the British lines near Colerberg and proceeded so near the Boer position that it was impossible to recover it, and the Boers, therefore, destroyed the trucks. It is suspected that this was the act of a traitor.

The total British casualties about Colerberg in two days were six men killed and twenty wounded.

The supply train, says another dispatch from Rensberg, ran into a broken train and was wrecked. The Boers began looting it, and another Rensberg train was dispatched to the spot in an attempt to recover the provisions. The Boers opened fire on the troops and natives accompanying it. Forcing the second train to return, after several of the natives had been killed.

METHUEN TO MOVE FORWARD. LONDON, January 3.—From a source which has many facilities of gaining inside news from South Africa, a representative of the Associated Press learns that Colonel Methuen's occupation of Douglas is regarded as merely the first step of General Methuen's carefully-matured plan to outflank the Boers.

According to this authority it is probable that Colonel Methuen in conjunction with General Buller's force, from the Modder river, will proceed to the rear of those intruding within the present General Methuen from proceeding to Kimberley.

Colonel Pilcher has on about forty miles travel before he accomplishes this end, and it is understood that correct an attack by General Methuen and a de-

ACHANCE FOR GIRLS.

Proposition for the State to Help Educate One Hundred.

BILL TO BE OFFERED TO-DAY.

Mr. Todd, the Member from Augusta, is the Patron.

AMENDMENTS TO FERTILIZER BILL.

It Will Be Proposed That the Inspectors Be Elected by the General Assembly—Employers' Liability Bill.

REORGANIZING THE PACE CO.

The Abattoir Will Be Completed When the Bonds Can Be Fulfilled.

YOUNG NORFOLK MAN ARRESTED.

Richmond Detectives Apprehend Him—Forgery Charge.

PROTEST AGAINST FLOUR SEIZURE.

Our Case Presented by Choate—New Ruling Touching Contraband.

CONSPIRACY TRIALS END.

Messieurs Deroulede, Guerin, and Buffet Found Guilty.

FRIEND OF CORNISH'S TESTIFIES.

He Says Any Chemist Can Make Cyanide of Mercury.

PRaise for a Richmond Concern.

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RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

Engineer Report to the House of Representatives.

DEEPENING OF CHANNEL HERE.

Recommendation of a Turning Area in Richmond's Harbor.

THE CRUMPACKER PROPOSITION.

Representative Hay Shows How It Affects the Eastern as Well as the Southern States—Personal Notes—New Patents.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 2.

(Special.)—The re-assembly of Congress after the recess was uneventful to Virginia as it was to every other State almost except for the receipt of the report of Colonel Allen to Chief-Engineer Wilson on the survey and examination of the James-river channel at Richmond.

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KENTUCKY CONTESTS.

Joint Legislative Committee Will Be Formed To-Day.

SOME SENSATIONAL CHARGES.

Alleged Forthcoming Testimony Damaging to Prominent People.

VAULT BOX HOLDING BRIBE MONEY.

It is Ordered to Be Produced in Court To-Day—Whallen, the Alleged Would-Be Briber, Held for Grand Jury.

FRANKFORD, KY., January 2.

The joint committee which will hear evidence in the Goebel-Taylor and Peckham-Marschall contests for Governor and Lieutenant-governor, respectively, will be formed to-morrow. The law provides that the members of the committee shall be drawn by lot, three in the Senate and eight in the House.

WHOLEN PLACED UNDER BOND.

Colonel Whallen was arraigned on the attempted bribery charge. George Magistrate Thompson, today, and he is over to the Franklin county grand jury, his bond being fixed at \$10,000. In the Circuit Court, President H. V. Loving, was before Judge Cantill, charged with contempt for disobeying the order of the court to turn over the vault box alleged to contain the \$5,000, which is claimed, was paid to Harrell in the event he voted against Goebel in this contest.

THE MISSISSIPPI SENATORSHIPS.

Result of Short-Term Contest Still an Open Question.

BRADLEY FOR SENATOR.

Kentucky Ex-Governor Will Be the Republican Nominee.

RYAN AT HOME AGAIN.

He Confers With Leading Democrats Starts for New York Saturday.

NEW YORK GAS COMBINE.

Consolidated Company Has Majority of City's Lighting Interests.

THE WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, January 3.—Forecast for Thursday and Friday: Fair.

THE WEATHER IN RICHMOND.

YESTERDAY was clear and bright, and warmer than for some days. The range of the thermometer was as follows:

6 A. M. 38

9 A. M. 41

12 M. 49