

narrow escapes when the walls fell. The loss is unknown, but will exceed \$200,000.

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 21.—The latest estimates place the number of deaths from the explosion of twenty tons of dynamite at Vredendorp on Wednesday evening, at 120 killed. About 400 were injured. Whole families of white Boers were wiped out. President Kruger arrived from Pretoria. In a speech he congratulated the inhabitants upon the splendid manner in which they sunk the race feuds in the common endeavor to relieve suffering. He said he trusted the good feeling which had arisen from the common sorrow may have permanent results and lead to much better feeling in the future between the Boers and the Uitlanders. The president's remarks had great effect upon the population. It is believed reforms in the internal administration of Transvaal will shortly be inaugurated in a form that will give general satisfaction.

HAVANA, Feb. 21.—Additional particulars were received today from Jarauco, showing that after the engagement there on Tuesday, Col. Hernandez pursued the insurgents until nightfall, when he came upon the main body under Antonio Maceo at Catalina. The Spanish cavalry dismounted and charged three times upon the enemy. Just before the third attack, the insurgents tried to set fire to the town, but only a few houses on the outskirts were burned. Fifteen Spanish soldiers were wounded. The insurgents lost heavily in killed and wounded.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Feb. 22.—A special to the News from Asheville, N. C., says "Bill Nye" died there at 2 o'clock p. m.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Ballington Booth appeared at the Salvation Army headquarters tonight for the first time since he ceased to be commander of the army of the United States. Neither Col. Nicol nor Acting Commander Eadie had been told that Booth would be at the meeting. Maj. Glenn, Staff Capt. Crafts and a half-dozen others, all strong supporters of the deposed commander, took a stand on the pavement in front of the building about 8 o'clock. They did not wear the army uniform and did not enter the building, where Col. Eadie was conducting a meeting in the large hall.

Ballington Booth reached the building about 8 o'clock, and with his friends in waiting went to room 16 on the fourth floor. The crowd that gathered outside the building in anticipation that something was to happen began to cheer for Booth. Ex-Commander Booth was not attired in the army uniform, although he wore the usual military cape coat. His face was pale and showed lines of worry.

Late tonight Commander Ballington Booth made a statement of the events leading to his resignation, directly contradicting assertions made by Colonel Nicol. He closed:

"I hereby declare on Mrs. Booth's and my own behalf, that we cannot under any conditions whatever accept proposals from London nor enter again under the authority of government of international headquarters in England.

"Mrs. Booth and myself bitterly regret that we have not yet had the opportunity of saying a loving farewell

to our immediate staff and faithful officers—to say nothing of the thousands we dearly love in this wide field. "BALLINGTON BOOTH."

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Feb. 24.—The body of Edgar W. Nye will be buried at the Calvary Episcopal church near Arden, on Tuesday next. Mr. Nye was a member of this church and a regular attendant whenever he was at home. Many telegrams have been received by Mrs. Nye from persons prominent in the literary world expressing their sympathy in her bereavement.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—The Spanish minister has received the following advices from Havana:

Bands of insurgents are marauding to the north of Taruco with the intention of diverting the attention of the troops and to permit Gomez and Maceo to cross to Matanza and enter the Cienega de Zapata. The roads to it are guarded by the commands of Echague and Francis. One of the insurgent bands entered the town of San Antonio de Blanco and was defeated by the troops. One encounter took place at the Oviedo plantation. The enemy lost three killed, four prisoners, eight horses and arms and ammunition. They carried away several wounded. Col. Segura has captured the rebel chief Euliseo between Catalina and Guinas.

A small column organized by the military commander of Mariua, with volunteers and firemen, defeated the bands of Villa Nueva and Balduino, killing twenty and capturing fifteen prisoners and ten horses with saddles and a few machetes. The reports are that the insurgents carried away many wounded.

Generals Aldecoa and Linares and Colonel Hernandez met in the night when passing the river of Opo de Agua, the band of Maceo retreating after having been defeated by Colonel Hernandez. The engagement lasted an hour and six of the enemy were killed. The government troops arrived at Catalina late in the night with two men wounded.

Knowing by the report of a spy that the enemy was at the Plantation El Gato, Col. Fort went to meet them. About two and a half miles from the plantation, strong groups of the enemy began firing with the intention of deceiving the government troops, but Colonel Fort pursued his way to the plantation and was met by the fire of the enemy who were entrenched in a strong position, formed in half circles, according to their usual tactics. The troops dislodged them from the sides by the fire of the artillery, the center being taken by the infantry. The enemy made a final stand in the ruins of the house that was stormed by troops of the Pinaro regiments and two companies of the Veraga battalion. The losses of the enemy were ten killed, left on the field, and about thirty that were carried away and many wounded. The bands engaged by the government columns were those of Maceo, Trayas, Parrar, Cardenas and Calmuga, united with a force from 4,000 to 5,000 men. The enemy tried to make a last stand but were dispersed, the principal groups retreating toward the Esperanza hills.

The government casualties were one captain and six soldiers dangerously

wounded, and six others more or less wounded.

A civilian carried by force by the insurgents to serve as guide, said when he returned that the insurgents are disabled and discouraged in consequence of the constant prosecution; that they carried away more than 200 wounded and rendered full justice to the courage of the troops. The guide said they are engaged in a running match.

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 24.—A fire which broke out this morning has caused a damage of \$375,000 to dry goods and other stores, warehouses, etc.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 23.—Seven people were asphyxiated, one fatally hurt by jumping from a window, and five others more or less injured by a fire in the residence of Jas. R. Armiger, a prominent jeweler on Charles street, this morning.

The house in which the holocaust occurred is one of a row of granite residences belonging to the A. S. Abel estate of Charles street, just north of La Fayette avenue. It is four stories in height and at the time of the fire was filled with costly furniture and much rare bric-a-brac and unique jewelry, of which Mr. Armiger was an enthusiastic collector. In the house were thirteen persons. Of these ten were members of the Armiger household, two were servants and the other, Mr. Manuel, was a guest who has been visiting the Armiger family for the past two or three days. It was his purpose to have returned to his home in New York last night but Mr. Armiger prevailed upon him to remain until Monday. All of these people were in their bedrooms, on the upper floors, some of them being partially dressed, when at 8:30 o'clock this morning fire was discovered issuing from a partition in the cellar. It had ignited from an over-heated furnace flue and was first seen by Louis Whiting, the colored man-of-all-work, who was at the time cleaning the front steps. Whiting ran to the adjacent corner and gave the alarm to a policeman, and hurried back to the house, entered the front door, closed it behind him and ascended to the second floor, where Mr. and Mrs. Armiger had their bedroom.

The house was by this time filled with a dense, stifling smoke, and when the negro and Mrs. Armiger attempted to descend they found it impossible. Whiting aided Mrs. Armiger to the front window and helped her to reach a small balcony in front, upon which he placed her and returned to the aid of Mr. Armiger. He found the latter had gone, and came back to Mrs. Armiger, who, clad in nothing but her night clothes, was shivering on the narrow balcony and shrieking in agonized tones for help. Half a dozen men who were passing hastened to the power house of the Charles street cable car line, a block below, and procured a short ladder. When they returned they found Deputy Fire Chief McAfee, a noted life saver, who quickly mounted the ladder. It was not long enough, but by standing on the uppermost round, he could reach the frightened woman. As he attempted to lift her from the balcony, her sooty clothing caught on an obstruction, and she fell forward with her whole weight upon the outstretched