

# FIGHTING GOING ON AT COLESBERG

Boers Stubbornly Resist, the British at Every Point, but Gradually Retreat from Their Position.

Gen. French Says He Can Carry the Place with Reinforcements—British War Reports Modify Estimate of French's Success—Lost One Train and Had to Retreat with Another—Stretchers Called at Tugela River—Molteno Attacked by the Boers—British to Treat Sunnyside Prisoners as Rebels Rather than as Prisoners of War—Contraband on the German Mail Steamer—Delagoa Bay Negotiations.

Sterkstroom, Cape Colony, Jan. 3.—The Boers attacked Molteno this morning. A brisk action is now in progress.

Nauwpoort, Cape Colony, Jan. 3.—There was brisk fighting today in the hills around Colesberg. The Boers stubbornly resisted the British at every point but gradually retreated.

The British held the extreme position to the south and east, overlooking the town. The hills around Colesberg are numerous, not in ranges but in groups, making it very difficult to hunt the Boers out.

Sixteen wounded have arrived at Arundel.

London, Jan. 3.—Lacking news from the main British camps in South Africa whose future action can alone have an important effect on the larger issues of the campaign, the British public is making the most of Col. Picher's miniature battle. Unbounded tribute is paid to the prowess of the Canadians and Australians, and graphic accounts are published of the scenes at Douglas as the victors entered that place. The representative of the Associated Press with the flying column says:

"The immediate result of Col. Picher's success is the entire dispersal of the rebels who have been governing the country for the past six weeks."

After Sunnyside was captured the Boers occupied the laager for the night and joined the main body the following morning, bringing the whole of the Boer tents, wagons and loot, and leaving the Cornwallis in garrison at Sunnyside. The British force then started for Douglas, the Boers bringing up the rear in wagons.

In the afternoon the troops entered the town unopposed and amid extraordinary scenes. The inhabitants were overjoyed and crowded about the soldiers, shaking hands with them, and when they learned that their deliverers were Canadians and Australians the enthusiasm became frenzied. There were deafening cheers as the troops traversed the main street, and it was almost impossible for them to make progress, the crowds being so eager to shake hands with the colonials.

It appears that the landroost and all the mounted rebels evacuated the place on the previous night. The unmounted rebels are reported to be entrenched in the vicinity. Quantities of ammunition were captured and destroyed.

A dispatch from the Modder river intimates that the Sunnyside prisoners will not be treated as prisoners of war, but as British subjects caught in open rebellion.

At the Modder river camp the conduct of the colonials is greatly admired and all are delighted that they have struck the first blow on the western frontier since the battle of Magersfontein. It is believed the relief of Kuruman will quickly follow.

The latest advices from the Colesberg district tend to modify the estimate of Gen. French's success. The predicted occupation of Colesberg had not been accomplished last evening, while the Boers' guns announced to have been silenced were still active. The war office this afternoon issued a dispatch received from Gen. French under yesterday's date, saying his position was the same as on the previous day, that with small reinforcements he could dislodge the Boers from Colesberg, and in the meantime he continued maneuvering.

Gen. Buller continues his night bombardments, and patrol surprises. As the Tugela river is again fordable and the stretchers have again been requisitioned at Durban and Puttermaritzburg, there is a disposition to believe that the British advance will not be long delayed.

It is reported at Durban that the captured German steamer Bundesrath had on board five big guns, fifty tons of shells and 180 trained artillerymen. Nothing further has been heard from Molteno, which was reported from Sterkstroom to have been attacked by the Boers this morning. So far as is known there is only a small force

say, about three hundred men, sixty of whom are at work in the mill. I was informed by an old timer there, a man who has been employed on the outside all the time, that the mill dust has been the cause of the death of over three hundred men in all.

"The worst feature is that the men are mostly ignorant, when first employed, of the fatal character of their work and they do not feel its effect until it is too late to remedy it. Then they make up their minds that they might as well stay as it will be but a matter of time until death comes. One St. George boy told me that there are in his town nineteen widows, who have been bereft by this terrible dust. I think it my duty to warn our young men against going out there, because when they go to work at that mill they simply sign their death warrant. Six weeks of it was enough for me and I only worked in the mill at intervals. When I did so, however, I was careful to wear the best respirator I could get in order to keep the dust out of my lungs. In this way, and by quitting the business in time, I escaped, but there were many a poor fellow out there whose lungs are coated and whose days are numbered."

France Threatening San Domingo. Santo Domingo, Jan. 3. (Via Haytian cable).—The United States gunboat Machias is in port.

The French consul here is pressing the Boimar-Caccavelli claim for 280,000 francs, payment of which is overdue. He threatens to embargo the government revenues. According to rumors the improvement company has failed to comply with its contract upon the government regarding the payment of the claim. As the local lawyers refused to attend to the matter, the Supreme court has named a lawyer to act for the French consul.

France Will Be Fair to England.

Paris, Jan. 3.—The opinion has been expressed in official circles to a representative of the Associated Press that the modus vivendi between Great Britain and France regarding Newfoundland would be extended for another year. There would be no desire upon the part of France to take advantage of Great Britain's uncomfortable situation in the Transvaal to force an unfair settlement of a matter not regarded as vital.

France is in the position of being willing to sell her fishing rights but she considers it proper for Great Britain to make the first proposition. Thus the matter stands in abeyance.

Imprisoned for Insulting Catholics.

Berlin, Jan. 3.—Signor Mohring, editor of the comic paper Ull, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment, for insulting the Catholic church in a poem entitled "The Cowardly Act of Rennes."

The Lawton Fund.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Gen. Corbin announces that the total subscriptions to the Lawton fund received to date amount to \$44,122. He says that with what is on hand elsewhere the fund is now well above \$50,000.

Bubonic Plague at Manila.

Manila, Jan. 3, 5:50 p. m.—The health officers have found a native with all the symptoms of bubonic plague in a house in the walled city, where two suspicious deaths have occurred. The patient has been isolated and every precaution has been taken to prevent a spread of the disease.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The war department is taking steps to prevent the introduction of the plague in the Philippines and Secretary Root this morning called into consultation Surgeon General Wyman, of the marine hospital service, to discuss the establishment of a quarantine system for the island. It was decided that the war department should adopt towards the Philippines a policy like that it pursued towards Cuba in the matter of protection of health, namely, confine the marine hospital service. The report received by both the state department and by Surgeon General Wyman from Honolulu confirm the Associated Press dispatch relative to the marine hospital service. The report received by both the state department and by Surgeon General Wyman from Honolulu confirm the Associated Press dispatch relative to the marine hospital service.

San Diego, Cal., Jan. 3.—Reports received from the back counties show that the recent earthquake was the cause of a number of strange happenings. The mud volcanoes on the desert near the Colorado river have become active after a long rest, and are now spouting mud again. The natural gas wells near Yuma are also in working order since the heavy quake. They have been lighted, and the glare at night can be seen for many miles.

Death of Naval Officers.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The navy department has been advised by cable from Admiral Watson, of the death of Commander James W. Carley on board the Culgoa from an attack of peritonitis. He was on his way to the naval hospital at Yokohama for treatment when he died, Dec. 30 last. The message also reported the death of Capt. C. A. Ligate of the marine corps at Guam, where he was stationed on Dec. 2. His death followed a surgical operation.

Plague in Brazil.

Rio Janeiro, Jan. 3.—The bubonic plague has broken out in the city of San Paulo.

Molteno Trial.

New York, Jan. 3.—The Molteno case was resumed today with Policeman John H. Palmer on the stand. Palmer was called into the Adams flat shortly after Mrs. Adams' death. He identified the bottle and bottle-holder and the address of the poison package which he had first seen on the night of the murder. Detective Sergeant John Herlihy, who helped in the work up the case, was also examined.

Killed in an Idaho Mine.

Wallace, Ida., Jan. 3.—John F. McKee was killed in the Frisco mine today. He was from Chico, Cal.

Water in the Canal.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—Water is creeping down the new drainage canal at the rate of about a mile an hour, and some time tonight will reach the controlling works at Lockport, Ill. It is pouring through the collateral canal at the rate of about 55,000 cubic feet a minute and this flow has already caused a perceptible southward flow to the Chicago river and resulted in a great decrease in the murkiness of the water. The work at the dam at Joliet it is said will be completed in four or five days, much sooner than was expected, and when that is completed the canal, so far as its use for sanitary purposes is concerned, will have been practically completed. The gates of the controlling works at Lock-

## CHOATE SEES LORD SALISBURY

Latter Does Not Relish the Question Presented to Him.

ENGLAND IN A QUANDARY.

Puzzling What to Do Over Foodstuffs as Contraband—Will Not Reply Hurriedly.

London, Jan. 3.—The United States ambassador, Joseph H. Choate, visited the British premier, Lord Salisbury, at the foreign office this evening for the purpose of making the first official representations on the subject of the Delagoa bay flour seizure. Mr. Choate received no definite reply as the premier informed him that the British government had not yet arrived at any decision as to whether or not foodstuffs were contraband of war. But Lord Salisbury assured Mr. Choate the commercial rights of the United States would be equitably considered, and that a decision in this important matter would be reached as soon as possible. The interview was brief.

The Associated Press learns that Lord Salisbury has not only got the attorney general, Sir Richard Webster, working hard on the question of the Delagoa bay seizures, but that he is consulting with the ablest lawyers in Great Britain. To quote a high official: "England is between Scylla and Charybdis. If we declare foodstuffs contraband we put ourselves in a most awkward position should we be a neutral power in some future war. We are most anxious to conserve the interests of the United States, yet self-interest must necessarily come first."

It was further learned by a representative of the Associated Press that Great Britain may lay down new regulations regarding contraband, making a distinction between foodstuffs intended for domestic purposes and foodstuffs intended for field rations. Under the latter head might come classes of canned goods.

The British government fully realizes that the representations of Mr. Choate will compel it to decide this far reaching matter, and while his request has been made and received in the most friendly spirit, the quandary is not relaxed by Lord Salisbury, though it is not regarded as likely to cause international friction. One thing is certain, the bill will not be settled hurriedly, though it is impossible even for the cabinet minister to forecast the date when Mr. Choate will receive a definite answer which must settle Great Britain's stand upon the question of contraband.

DID SOME STRANGE THINGS

Effects of the Recent Earthquake in California.

Started Mud Volcanoes Anew—Increased Flow of Natural Gas Wells—Made Big Fissures in the Earth.

San Diego, Cal., Jan. 3.—Reports received from the back counties show that the recent earthquake was the cause of a number of strange happenings. The mud volcanoes on the desert near the Colorado river have become active after a long rest, and are now spouting mud again. The natural gas wells near Yuma are also in working order since the heavy quake. They have been lighted, and the glare at night can be seen for many miles.

A correspondent from Moosa writes that a number of fissures were made in the ground at that place, twenty or more feet in length.

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port now open will be closed as no legal complications are expected, and the water in the north section of the canal allowed to rise to the level of the water east of the Campbell avenue dam, where the real canal commences. When this is done the dam at Campbell avenue will be cut, the collateral canal having served its purpose, and the gates at Lockport opened again. The water in the Chicago river today is about eight inches lower than it was yesterday but this according to members of the sanitary board is not due to the flow of water in the canal and is not more than the usual variation in the depth of the river.

Engineer Randolph has addressed a report to the members of the inspection commission showing in detail the condition of every branch of the work. The understanding is that the commission will reply at once, pointing out any finishing touches needed to make the canal conform with the letter of the law. The trustees will do all that is required in this direction and the commission will then submit its final report to the governor. There is no doubt as to the attitude of the commission and Gov. Tanner and a formal permit is expected soon after the report has been made. The trustees of the canal will meet in Chicago a week from today.

Michigan's Middle.

Lansing, Mich., Jan. 3.—Telegrams were received today from Arthur F. Marsh, ex-adjutant general of Michigan and chairman of the Republican State central committee, stating that he was about to leave Brockport, N. Y., for Lansing, to plead to the indictment found against him for having, as alleged, had a part in the notorious military clothing deal. Nothing has been heard yet as to Gen. Hite's whereabouts.

Col. Eli R. Sutton of Detroit, a member of Gov. Pingree's military staff, and intimate both of the governor and of the indicted generals, testified today before the grand jury and exhibited his private bank books as a proof of his innocence of connection with the clothing deal. It appears certain that the policy of the controlling faction in the senate is to disregard Gov. Pingree's message urging passage of new legislation before ending the present special session. A joint resolution providing for submitting to a vote of the people the question of municipal ownership of street railways, etc., was reported favorably to the house today.

Steamer on a Reef.

San Francisco, Jan. 3.—Advices from Honolulu of Dec. 25 state the steamer Alcoa ran on a reef while entering that harbor on December 23, and narrowly escaped destruction. She was pulled off by tugs, after four hours' work, and it was found that no serious damage had been done. The Alcoa, which is the largest vessel that ever visited Honolulu, had on board 13,000 tons of freight.

P. S. Wilkes Dead.

Stockton, Cal., Jan. 3.—Peter S. Wilkes, an attorney, once a member of the Confederate congress, is dead at his home here, aged 74 years. He was born in Tennessee and removed to Missouri, where he graduated from a university in 1852. A week afterward he was elected to the state legislature. During the last year of the war, Mr. Wilkes was elected to the Confederate congress. At the close of hostilities he fled to Mazatlan, Mexico, where he remained until about twenty-five years ago, when he came to this city.

Bloody Family Row.

Montgomery, Ala., Jan. 3.—At Headland, Henry county, Mrs. Cheek of Thomsville, Ga., in company with her brother-in-law, Thomas Bunton, drove to the house of Wm. Danzy, the woman's former husband, from whom she was divorced, and attempted to secure a child which was in the keeping of Danzy. The father interfered and received wounds from a pistol fired by Bunton which afterwards caused his death. Mrs. Cheek stabbed her former husband, and Danzy's present wife, coming to his aid, shot Mrs. Cheek in the foot. Mrs. Cheek returned to Thomsville, but her arrest has been ordered by the Alabama authorities.

Went Insane in the Philippines.

San Francisco, Jan. 3.—The following soldiers, declared to be insane, have been sent to Washington from the Presidio military reservation:

Sergeant Thomas F. Collins, company G, Sixth infantry; Sergeant Owen H. Wisman, hospital corps; Private Thos. F. Barry, hospital corps; Amador Barrios, company E, Sixth infantry; Michael Gallagher, company C, Twenty-third infantry; George H. Barrow, troop C, Fourth cavalry; Walter A. O'Neill, battery F, Sixth artillery; Louis Ford, company L, Fourth infantry; Emerick Mulvey, company E, Sixth infantry; David E. Young, company A, Seventh infantry; Frank Thayer, company I, Seventeenth infantry; George W. Decker, company E, Eighteenth infantry; Joseph Hoffman, company E, Twenty-second infantry; George J. Nixon, company L, Twelfth infantry.

Nearly all of these men lost their minds as a result of campaigning in the Philippines.

Assistant Secretary Will Resign.

New York, Jan. 3.—A special to the Times from Washington says:

It is reported that Webster Davis, assistant secretary of the interior, will never resume the duties of his office, and his resignation is expected. He is now in South Africa. It is understood that friction has existed in the interior department for some time and that Mr. Davis' leave of absence was meant to mark the end of it.

GALLANT OFFICERS PROMOTED.

Gen. Bates, Wheaton, Young, MacArthur and Ludlow Rewarded. Washington, Jan. 3.—The President today sent the following nominations to the senate:

To be United States Consul—Thomas T. Prentiss of Massachusetts at Rouen, France; George L. Darte, of Pennsylvania at Martinique, transferred to Patras, Greece; Alonzo C. Yates of Virginia at Patras, transferred to Martinique.

War—Brig. Gen. J. C. Bates, to be major general of the volunteers. Brig. Gen. Lloyd Wheaton to be major general of volunteers by brevet. Major to be brigadier general, Col. S. B. M. Young, Lieutenant Colonel Arthur MacArthur, Lieut. Col. William Ludlow.

Also a number of appointments and promotions in the regular and volunteer army.

Guilty With Extenuating Circumstances. Paris, Jan. 3.—The high court (senate) today rendering its verdict in the conspiracy case not previously disposed of, decided by a vote of 16 to 10 that M. De Rouleau was guilty and by a vote of 20 to 1 decided on extenuating circumstances.

## GROWING STORM IN CONGRESS TODAY

Began by Gaines of Texas Declaring as False the Statement That He Voted Against Roberts for Self Defense.

Then Sulzer of New York Came in with a Resolution—It Inquired Into the Course of Secretary Gage in Depositing Public Funds with Certain New York Banks—Flurry Over its Reference—McRae Has a Declaration on the Philippines—Senate Considered Same Matters—Hoar Objects to Senators Being Throttled—Chandler Offers an Amendment to the Financial Bill, in Favor of a Bimetallic Standard of Money.

Washington, Jan. 3.—There were premonitions of a storm when the House assembled after the holiday recess today. Several members, including Mr. Sulzer, (Dem. N. Y.) were prepared to offer resolutions of inquiry into the course of Secretary Gage in regard to the deposit of public funds in the New York banks and the demand for their immediate consideration.

Mr. Gaines (Dem. Tenn.) got precedence over Mr. Sulzer by rising to a question of personal privilege. He had read a publication alleging that he had stated that in voting for the Taylor resolution to investigate the case of Brigham H. Roberts he had been actuated by motives of self-preservation. He denounced the publication as false and without foundation.

Mr. Sulzer was then recognized and offered his resolution, which was read at the clerk's desk. The speaker immediately ruled that the resolution under the rules must go first to a committee and was not privileged.

"If the committee does not report it back within one week, does it become privileged?" asked Mr. Sulzer.

"I do," responded the Speaker. "I now ask unanimous consent for the consideration of the resolution," said Mr. Sulzer.

"The resolution should first be considered by a committee," said Mr. Payne, floor leader for the majority. "I object."

The resolution was referred to the committee on ways and means. That ended the little flurry and at 12:15 p. m. upon Mr. Payne's motion the House adjourned until tomorrow.

Following is the resolution offered by Representative Sulzer.

"Resolved, That the secretary of the treasury be, and he hereby is directed to furnish the House of Representatives, as soon as possible, with the following information:

"(1) All letters, agreements, papers or documents between the treasury department of the United States and any person connected therewith and the National City Bank and the Hanover National Bank of the city of New York, or any person acting for them, or either of them, since the fourth day of March, 1897, relating to the deposition of public funds or revenues in said bank or banks, or any other relations or business transactions now existing or had between the government and the said banks or either of them.

"(2) The amount of public money, bonds or revenue deposited with said banks or either of them, by the government, for what length of time, and the reasons therefor, and whether the said banks or either of them have paid the government any interest on the said deposits, and if so, how much, and all other facts concerning the same or in any way relating thereto.

The Sulzer resolution relative to the treasury department will probably be reported back from the ways and means committee to the House so amended as to omit specific reference to two banks and refer generally to all banks.

The committee will meet prior to the session of the House tomorrow to adopt this course. Representative McRae of Arkansas also introduced the following joint resolution:

"Be it resolved, etc., That the United States hereby declare that their purpose in acquiring jurisdiction and control over the Philippine Islands was and is to secure to the inhabitants thereof as soon as practicable after the suppression of the existing rebellion therein a free, independent and stable government, republican in form, and that the United States guarantee to said inhabitants protection against all foreign invasion."

SENATE.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The Senate resumed its sittings today with a liberal attendance of senators and with a small flood of bills, resolutions and petitions.

## ROBERTS TO BE MADE A SACRIFICE

Offering to a False Public Sentiment—Will be Minority and Majority Reports on His Case—Committee Will Meet Tomorrow.

[SPECIAL TO THE "NEWS."]

Washington, D. C., Jan. 3.—The Roberts committee will resume its hearing tomorrow, and it is probable that if any witnesses from Utah are on hand they will be given a hearing. After that, Mr. Roberts will be heard in his own defense.

There is no doubt but there will be a minority report, which will deal with the prima facie right of Roberts to be sworn in. The interview with Judge Miers in Indiana a few days ago clearly indicates a division in the committee. It is generally understood that a majority of the committee will recommend

The petitions related to the question of polygamy, while the bills and resolutions covered a wide variety of subjects.

Mr. Allen presented a resolution calling upon the secretary of the treasury for all letters passing between the treasury department and the National City bank and the Hanover National bank of New York, and also agreements made between the treasury department and those banks concerning the deposit of funds, etc.

Mr. Aldrich objected to present consideration of the resolution and overruled the objection.

A like disposition was made of a resolution offered by Mr. Pettigrew, calling upon the secretary of war for information as to whether Gen. Torres came to Gen. Ots with a flag of truce, and also agreements made between the treasury department and those banks concerning the deposit of funds, etc.

Mr. Aldrich gave notice that he would call up the financial bill immediately after the morning business tomorrow. Mr. Hoar then entered a protest against what he termed an attempt to throttle senators in their efforts to obtain information about the deplorable conditions which have existed in the Philippines.

Mr. Aldrich announced that he had no desire to suppress anything or any senator's efforts.

Senator Pettigrew's resolution was as follows:

"Resolved, That the secretary of war be and he hereby is directed to inform the Senate whether Gen. Torres, one of the officers of the Philippine army, came to Gen. Ots with a flag of truce on Feb. 9, 1899, the day after the fighting commenced, between our forces and those of Aguinaldo, and stated to Gen. Ots that Aguinaldo declared that fighting had begun accidentally and was not authorized by Aguinaldo, and that Aguinaldo wished to have it stopped, and that to bring about a conclusion of hostilities he proposed the establishment of a neutral zone between the two armies, and whether Gen. Ots replied that fighting having begun began must go on to the grim end.

"Was Gen. Ots directed by the secretary of war to give such an answer? Did Gen. Ots telegraph the secretary of war on Feb. 9, 1899, as follows: 'Aguinaldo now applies for a cessation of hostilities and conferences. I have declined to answer; and did Gen. Ots afterwards reply that he was directed by the secretary of war, and what answer, if any, did he or the secretary of war make to the application to cease fighting?'"

Senator Chandler, of New Hampshire, offered an amendment to the financial bill, adding two new sections as follows:

"Section 9.—That in accordance with the act of Nov. 1, 1893, which repeals a part of the act of July 14, 1890, it is hereby reaffirmed and declared to be the policy of the United States to continue the use of both gold and silver as standard money, and to coin both gold and silver into money of equal intrinsic and exchangeable value; such equality to be secured through international agreement or by such other means of legislation as will insure the maintenance of the parity in the value of the coins of the two metals and the equal power of every dollar at all times in the markets and in the payment of debts; and it is further declared that the efforts of the government should be steadily directed to the establishment of some system of bimetalism as will maintain at all times the equal power of every dollar coined or issued by the United States in the markets and in the payment of debts.

"Section 10.—That the provisions of the act of March 2, 1897, authorizing the President to appoint commissioners to any international conference called by the United States or any other country, with a view to securing by international agreement a fifty or relative value between gold and silver as money by means of a common ratio between these metals with free mintage at such ratio, be, and the same are, hereby reenacted and continued in force."

DECLARED VACANT.

In the past few days there has been a marked change in feeling towards Mr. Roberts, who, in the opinion of many members, will be made a vicarious sacrifice to false public sentiment.

Washington, Jan. 3.—A statement has been received from the remaining Utah witness who was to appear before the committee investigating the case of Mr. Roberts, giving the substance of the evidence he would give if sworn by the committee. This statement will

(Continued on page two.)

## FATAL DUST OF DELAMAR MILL.

One Who Has Had Actual Experience Tells of the Death Dealing Properties of the Flying Particles Inhaled by the Resigned Workmen.

A. J. Hawks, who lives at Orangeville, Emery county, came in from Delamar, Nevada, today. He says that about six weeks ago he went out to Delamar to work as a carpenter, and upon occasions made repairs on the inside of the mill. It is for this reason that Mr. Hawks is now on his way home.

"I went out there," said Mr. Hawks, "on advice of Mr. Heber Player of Salt Lake, who died from the effects of the dust two weeks after I reached there. I was not cognizant of the fact that the dust had such fatal effects, or I should have remained here in this city, where I was at work when asked to go out to Nevada.

"The mine and mill employ, I should