

THE FAILURE OF THE THIRD ATTEMPT

Boer Telegram of Gen. Buller's Retirement Across the Tugela is Accepted as Correct.

Dispatch from Buller's Headquarters at Spearman Confirms the Report—Belief that Ladysmith Cannot Hold Out Against Another Boer Attack—Lord Roberts's Campaign—He Will Have 35,000 to 40,000 Men to Advance, After Guarding His Communications—Censor is a Success—British Surprises—Condition at Ladysmith—Macdonald's Retirement Puzzling—New Navy Estimates—Dr. Leyds on Boer Ammunition—Another Attempt to Relieve Ladysmith Unlikely.

[Early Dispatches.] New York, Feb. 10.—The war office in London has given out no confirmation of the report that Gen. Buller's forces had retired again to the south side of the Tugela. The Boer telegrams have been generally correct hitherto, however, and the public inclines to the belief that the report is accurate. The London morning papers publish dispatches from various sources which indicate that Gen. Buller had found his position on the Vaal Krantz ridge a difficult one to hold, and the silence from the war office is taken as confirmation of the report that the third attempt to relieve Ladysmith has failed. The military critics are almost unanimous in the belief that Ladysmith cannot hold out against another Boer attack.

The London paper strongly hints that the Boer operations are for the purpose of distracting the attention of the British from a projected central advance on a strong force, presumably headed by Lord Roberts.

The government announcement that 35,000 men in South Africa instead of the public curiosity to uncover the secret where this supposed force is.

High authorities agree that Lord Roberts, after safeguarding his communications, will have only from 35,000 to 40,000 men for his northward march. Some of how many Boers he will have are more guesswork, so that depends upon the fate of Ladysmith and the number of Boers released from that point.

Extraordinary efforts have been made by the censor to conceal Lord Roberts's destination, but the general belief seems to be that he contemplates advancing towards Bloemfontein.

BRITISH SURPRISED. A dispatch from Sterkstroom shows that a British patrol consisting of six men, of whom one was a sergeant and five privates, was surprised at dawn by a large force of Boers, who captured them yesterday morning.

The Boer attack on the Pekaia and Bird's River camps. The Boers were allowed a rather free hand in explaining the ugly position which the British held, and the national character which had to be overcome. It is easy to infer that with Boer rifles and artillery defending them, the Boers would have been able to capture the Pekaia and Bird's River camps, and thus the public is prepared in advance for bad news.

A Frenchman who is supposed to be a spy, was caught and brought to Bloemfontein camp tonight.

There has been no further fighting since the Boer attack on the Pekaia and Bird's River camps. The Boers report having seen nothing of any Boers.

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THE TIMES, DEALING WITH THE MILITARY. The Times, dealing with the military situation, says: "If Gen. Buller has failed, it seems unlikely that another attempt will be made. The terrible initial strategic mistake of abandoning the principal objective for a subsidiary operation still over weighs the campaign, but the time approaches when its baneful influence will cease to fetter our nation. The great issues of the war will not be decided in Natal."

Gen. Macdonald's retirement The Times considers "inexplicable."

Leipzig, Feb. 9.—The Neueste Nachrichten prints a special dispatch from a correspondent who claims that Gen. Buller's third attempt to relieve Ladysmith has completely failed.

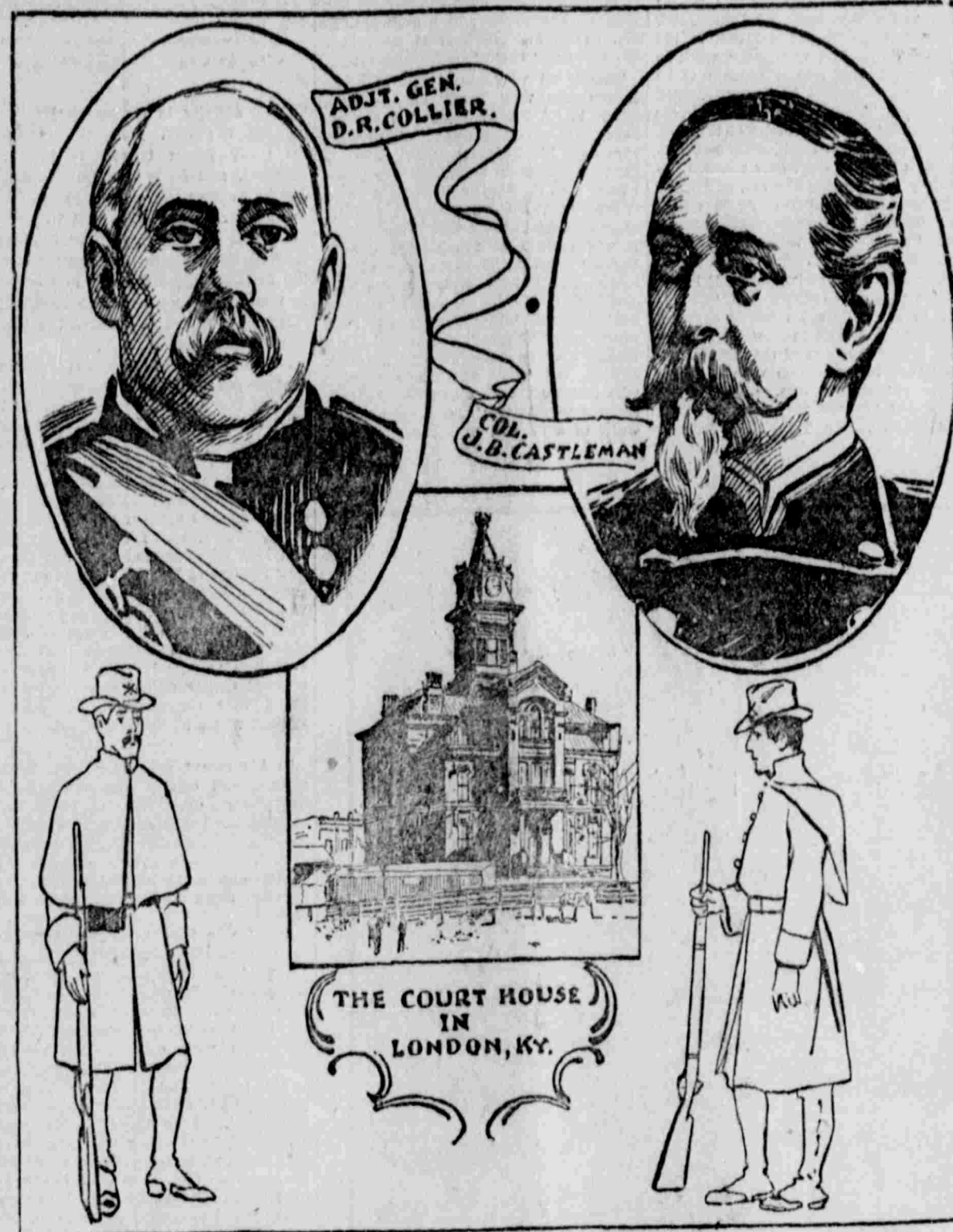
McKinley a Mason. Washington, Feb. 10.—President McKinley has been notified of his election as an honorary member of the Columbia Lodge of Master Masons of London, Eng. The notification was given by Col. J. H. Taylor, the master of Columbia lodge. He was accompanied to the White House by Grandmaster Henderson and Past Grand Masters Henry Small Jr. and M. H. Parker, of the district. The certificate of election is on its way to this country.

It is handsomely engrossed.

Bryan and His Throat. New York, Feb. 10.—William J. Bryan, who left for Washington this morning. He expects to spend the afternoon in Washington and leave there tonight for Austin, Texas. The strain incident to the numerous speeches which he has delivered since he came East two weeks ago, has told heavily on Mr. Bryan and his throat is in bad condition. He will take a long rest in Texas before he returns to his home in Nebraska.

The crushing government victory in the bye-election at York and the definite break between the liberals and the reunited Irish leaves the field clear for the party in power. Already a meeting of the liberal party has been called to express confidence in its leader in the house of commons, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, and it is freely rumored that he meditates throwing up the thankless task of the nominal leadership, and that the opposition is turning its eyes in the direction of Lord Rosebery. That so-called sphynx, however, is most too astute to retake the guidance of such an ill-conditioned body during a period so crucial in the country's history, and though, spasmodically, he evinces a desire to re-enter the field of active politics, he is the last man in the world to take a pig in a poke; hence the remainder of the session will probably be only marked by desultory opposition, the liberals taking the middle of the road course and the Irish adhering to out and out denunciation of the government and its war. But, neither will be able to prevent the chancellor of the exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, from passing any financial measures he decides upon to meet the tremendous drain caused by the hostilities. In the same way, the hand of secretary for war, the marquis of Lansdowne, cannot be forced, and whatever explanations, investigations or reforms may be forthcoming in relation to Great Britain's military system, they must await the consent of that much abused cabinet member.

The reuniting of the Irish members under Mr. John Redmond may be regarded more as a personal triumph for that stalwart independent than as having a serious bearing upon the politics of the immediate future. The organs of all the Irish parties are unanimous in declaring he is the right man in the right place. Yet, since the downfall of Charles Stewart Parnell, Mr. Redmond's hand has been against almost every other man's, steadfastly refusing all compromise, until, by sheer strength of character, he has forced his countrymen to acknowledge his abilities as a leader of no mean order. However, while his party continues to act without alliance with any English section, he can accomplish practically nothing. If the present felicitous organization



LONDON COURTHOUSE AND THE RIVAL KENTUCKY GENERALS.

LORD SALISBURY RETAINS HIS HOLD

No Likelihood of Overthrow of Present British Cabinet.

OPPOSITION TOO DIVIDED.

Healey's Speech—Centenary of Photography—Morganatic Marriages—Society News.

London, Feb. 10.—(Special London cable letter. Copyright, 1900, by the Associated Press.)—It has been a great week for the government. As foretold in these dispatches, Lord Salisbury held his own in parliament and with the country. The disunited liberal party was no match for the conservative organization, and even the small minorities mustered into the lobbies were largely leavened with discontented members, who much against their will, voted in favor of the party amendment.

The serious illness of Gen. Sir Wm. Lockhart, the commander-in-chief in India, will probably oblige him to return home. He has not been well since he went out, and his duties have greatly devolved on Maj. Gen. Sir Wm. G. Nicholson, the adjutant general who has now gone on Lord Roberts's staff. Another staff officer, to whom Lord Roberts is reported to submit all strategy, is Col. Henderson, who gained a reputation by a "Life of Stonewall Jackson" and a minute study of the Civil war.

Morganatic marriages are becoming popular. It is finally announced that, in spite of all delays, the Crown Princess Stephanie of Austria, widow of the Crown Prince Rudolf, will marry Count Von Lonyay March 8, and now, according to Vanity Fair, the heir to the Austrian throne, Archduke Ferdinand, three months ago married Countess Chotek, for her sake resigning his claims to rule. She is a handsome lady-in-waiting of Princess Stephanie.

The forthcoming marriage of Lord Chesterfield to Miss Edith Wilson will be a brilliant affair, and will set precedent at night, the bride wearing a satin train encrusted with silver lilies, doves and stars, while the bridesmaids will wear scarlet cloth coats with triple capes and picturesque felt hats. Lord Chesterfield's gifts to them are big sable muffs, instead of the orthodox bangle, while his gift to the bride is a diamond tiara and a check for £2,000.

Once again this week the little band known as the Dickens society gathered in Westminster abbey, and placed wreaths on the tomb of the novelist, to show that his anniversary was not forgotten. Among the many floral tributes was one inscribed "Annie and Edwin Drew," while several Americans were among those who, in the quiet poet's corner, listened to the low-spoken address of society's secretary.

Countess Russell, who has recently been touring in "A Runaway Girl," announces that she is going on the music hall stage, and will do a song and dance act.

On the Metropolitan stages the sole novelty is the revival of "Dandy Dick" at Wyndham's.

As predicted Saturday last, the new Gaiety piece is a great success. E. S. Willard denies the report that his re-appearance on the stage is imminent. He says he has completely recovered his health, but he adds, his holiday is much too pleasant to be interrupted with, and he has no intention of acting until his return to England in November.

ADMIRAL DEWEY NAILS THE I.E.

Hero of Manila Uses Emphatic Language Towards His Traducers.

NEVER RECOGNIZED REBELS

Had to Communicate With Aguinaldo—Story of Recognition Started by a Disreputable Adventurer.

New York, Feb. 10.—The Tribune says: "I have never by word, act or intimation either personally or through a representative, conveyed to Aguinaldo or any of his associates the assurance that the United States government would recognize Filipino independence." The foregoing statement was made by Admiral Dewey in the most emphatic tone last night. This declaration was brought forth in a discussion concerning the repeated assertions that Admiral Dewey while in the Philippines consulted with Aguinaldo and told him that the United States government would recognize the independence of the Philippines. The statement was elicited principally by an article bearing upon this subject which was sent in to the Tribune for publication. The article was shown to the admiral in his apartment at the Waldorf-Astoria. The admiral read the article carefully. The article contains a letter signed by Howard W. Bray, who is alleged to have acted as interpreter between Aguinaldo, Consul General Pratt and Admiral Dewey. Mr. Bray asserts that Aguinaldo had an interview with United States Consul General Pratt at Singapore on April 26, 1898; that the conditions of Aguinaldo's policy were clearly stated; that these were submitted to Dewey, and that the latter cabined with all haste to Hongkong, and that Dewey brought back Aguinaldo to Luzon under promise of independence.

When Admiral Dewey had read the article he said impressively: "I have some reports, documents and statements before me which I intend, upon my return to Washington, to submit to the Senate committee of foreign relations. It is better, however, to strike this lie as it arises, and I will answer the charge as it comes. I never saw this man Bray. I never knew him. I never heard of him except as a disreputable adventurer in the pay of the Philippine junta. So far as this story concerns me there is not a word of truth in it."

Admiral Dewey then took up a report which he had before him. It was typewritten and destined to go to the Senate. It was made by Lieut. R. P. Hall, chief engineer of the Petrel. It was a voluminous document and set forth in detail all negotiations with Capt. Wood, at that time in command of the Petrel, who acted as Admiral Dewey's representative having dealings with the Philippine junta in Hongkong. Lieut. Hall set forth how he and the Philippine junta, through a banker named Levy, asked for an interview with a representative of Admiral Dewey. The interview was arranged and Lieut. Hall kept the appointment. In his report he tells in detail of the meeting, who attended it and what was said. The salient point made by Lieut. Hall is concerning Aguinaldo's attitude at that time. This interview was at Hongkong on April 6, 1898.

When Aguinaldo was asked, so Lieut. Hall, who is now at the Brooklyn navy yard, reported, what part he intended to take in the war which seemed inevitable between Spain and the United States, he replied that he had made an agreement with a Spanish government to leave the Philippines; that he had received a promise of a sum of money had been paid, and he did not care to break his word or take any part in the probable war between Spain and the United States.

"I never had any dealings with Emilio Aguinaldo," continued the admiral. "You see, I never even called him 'general.' You see now just how the story rests. I want you to note this. He said, 'You can say as coming from me that it is absolutely false.'"

PORTUGAL PREPARES TO PAY.

Indication that Dom Carlos Will Retain South African Possessions.

New York, Feb. 10.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: "In anticipation of a verdict being rendered against her in the McMurdo claim, Portugal is collecting the necessary funds for the satisfaction of the award. Statements to this effect are being made in Portuguese newspapers, which have just been received by M. Ignacio Da Costa Duarte, charge d'affaires of Portugal here."

M. Da Costa Duarte pointed out that this was an indication of the intention of his government to retain its South African possessions and besides, information he has received from Lisbon shows conclusively it is not the purpose of Portugal to alienate any of her territory. It is expected that the Lisbon authorities that the amount of the award against their government will be in the neighborhood of \$4,000,000.

It is understood that the award of the arbitrators in the McMurdo claim has furthered by reason of the action of British and American claimants in submitting additional facts and arguments to the Swiss arbitrators.

The McMurdo claim arises from the confiscation of the Delago Bay railroad running from Lourenco Marques to Pretoria, in South Africa, by the Portuguese government. The railroad was built by the late Col. Edward McMurdo.

Industries Still Ahead. New York, Feb. 9.—R. C. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade will say tomorrow: "The industries are still surpassing in actual output the week of any previous year. Their new business is not correspondingly large, nor could such orders be accepted by most industries if offered, but enough are coming to prevent stoppage of works or much decline in prices."

"If woolen goods new business of remarkable volume sustains a marked advance in prices, and in other lines of importance, as in machinery orders, indicate a surprising foreign demand."

"Meanwhile, though encouraged by the abundance and ease of money, speculation does not in any direction as yet go without check far enough to do mischief. There is much of the speculative spirit abroad, but also more caution than is usually shown after a year of exceptional prosperity. Perhaps the war in Africa, with its possibilities of daily surprise, is in that respect a moderating influence."

THE SALARY OF POSTAL CLERKS.

Effort to be Made to Get Their Compensation Increased.

LARGE LOBBY MAINTAINED.

Resignations and Deaths in Present House—Ten Seats Thus Vacated—Places Hard to Fill.

Special Correspondence. Washington, Feb. 6.—A very strong effort will be made at the present session of Congress to pass bills which will reclassify and increase the salaries of railway postal clerks, letter carriers and clerks in various first and second class postoffices throughout the country. There has been a pressure for this kind of legislation for a dozen years or more, and bills have been introduced at every Congress, but as it means a large increase in the appropriations on account of the salaries, which would be much higher than heretofore, these bills have never found favor. It is understood that a considerable lobby will be maintained by the organization of the different clerks for the purpose of urging legislation during the present session, and several leading members of the congress seem to think there is a possibility that the bill will go through. It is said that there are about 35,000 men who will be affected by the legislation if it is passed. One of the principal objections made by some members of the House is regarding the manner in which this legislation is being urged, the ground being taken that the government employees should not band together for the purpose of bringing about an increase of their salaries. It is the aim of every man who gets a government place to get a higher salary either by promotion or through legislation. Where one scheme fails another is tried. There is no law against organization of the clerks for the purpose of forwarding their legislation, but from suggestions that have been dropped it would seem that as much harm as good will be brought about by their action. The purpose of influencing legislation and looking to an increase of their salaries.

CHANGES IN THE HOUSE.

As early as it is in the life of the Fifty-sixth congress, ten seats in the House of Representatives have either fallen victims to death or tendered their resignations. Of those who resigned, ex-Speaker Reed is the most prominent, while Warren R. Hooker of New York was another prominent member who voluntarily severed his connection with the national House. The third man who resigned was John W. Smith, who gave up his congressional office to take the governorship of Maryland, to which he was elected last fall. Successors have been chosen to Reed and Hooker, Amos L. Allen succeeding the former, while E. B. Vreeland fills the chair formerly longed to by the distinguished New Yorker. The third seat will remain vacant until there has been a special election held for filling that place. Among the dead Nelson Dingley stands out most prominently, inflicting the greatest loss upon the House. In place of Dingley, who lost his last famous man in the House through the retirement of Boutelle, Richard P. Bland of Missouri was also a distinguished figure in the House and became well known as a ready and able supporter of the administration, while he bore his name. Others who have died are Greene of Nebraska, Baird of Louisiana, Danford of Ohio, Ermentrout of Pennsylvania and Settle of Kentucky, but each has been succeeded by a new man. In place of the deceased members we now have such men in the House as Littlefield of Maine, Neville of Nebraska, Randall of Louisiana, Shackelford of Missouri, Gill of Ohio, Greene of Pennsylvania and Gayles of Kentucky. Several of the new men bid fair to make names for themselves when they have once learned the ropes, and while there will never again be another Reed or another Dingley, there is no reason why some of these new men should not come before the public after a term of probation in the House.

HIS PENSION REQUEST.

We sometimes hear of men talking in a manner that indicates a large stake in foreign blood, but we seldom find one of the men writing in that same way. But here is a letter received by Senator Teller from a pension applicant, which proves that a man can write as well as speak broken English with a German accent. The letter is signed by a man whose name indicates German birth. It is as follows: "Hon. Mr. Teller—Mine frens say for me rite you bout mine penshun. I be long time and it no come. I be old man and work much. Mine case is old number — Mine company I Company 8 Missoury infanry. I was in 1861 til 1864. Will you please ask what is matter. Your Fren,

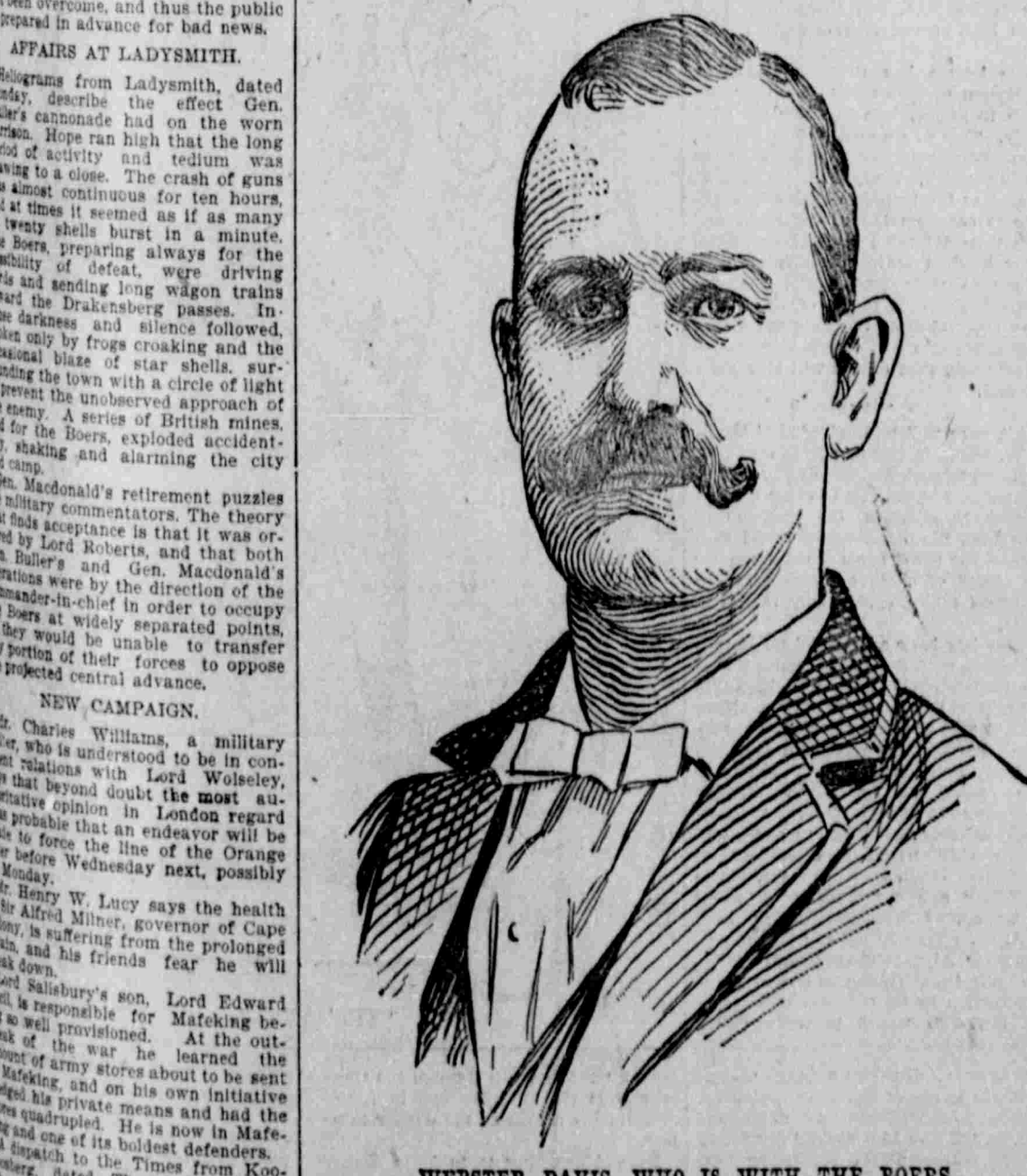
UNCONVENTIONAL REMARKS.

A fad for making unconventional remarks has reached Washington this winter, and its devotees seem to assume that in saying something reckless or shocking they are giving themselves an air of most captivating drollery, and their efforts are most amusing if not altogether fascinating. At a dinner the other evening I heard a prominent society woman asked if she were going to see a certain highly spiced play later, and when she said "No" the questioner smilingly inquired, "Too bad?" "Oh, dear, no!" she exclaimed. "I have no principles!"

On another occasion recently I saw two young matrons presented to each other and heard one inquire of the other, "How many little beasts have you?"

Anti-Trust Delegates Coming.

Chicago, Feb. 10.—The advance guard of the delegates to the National Anti-Trust conference, which will convene in this city Monday morning, began arriving today. Chairman M. L. Lockwood said today that acceptances had been received from more than 1,000 invited guests to attend the conference and that the governors of nearly every State in the Union had appointed delegates. Arkansas is expected to send the largest delegation from the South and California from the West. Chairman Lockwood will preside over the conference until a permanent chairman is chosen in his place. It was said last evening that probably the conference would be extended to Thursday.



WEBSTER DAVIS, WHO IS WITH THE BOERS.

Webster Davis, the assistant secretary of the interior, whose visit to the Transvaal is just now being so widely discussed, is a Missouri lawyer and a man who has had a varied career in politics. The state and interior departments deny that Assistant Secretary Davis is intrusted with a diplomatic mission, but he is riding in President Kruger's private car and is receiving many courtesies from the Boers. He is now with the Boer army in Natal.