

BOERS HOLD HEIGHTS

Warren Retains Perilous Position Gained Sunday.

STEEP SLOPES PREVENT GUN PLANTING

A Night Attack Contemplated to Carry Spion's Kop—Dutch Colonists Aid the Enemy—Boer Report of the Fight.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—General Buller's great turning movement, of which so much had been expected, has come to a standstill. His carefully worked message to the war office telling this after a silence of two days reads like an apology and an explanation.

General Warren holds the ridges, but he could not get his positions higher. The British artillery is playing on the Boer positions, and the Boers are replying. The British infantry is separated by only 1,400 yards from the enemy, but an approach to the steep slopes across the bare open would expose the British to a fatal rifle fire.

The following dispatch from General Buller, dated at Spierman's Camp, Jan. 23, 6:20 p. m., has just been posted:

"Warren holds the position he gained two days ago. In front of him at about 1,400 yards is the enemy's position, west of Spion's kop. It is on higher ground than Warren's position, so it is impossible to see into it properly.

"It can only be approached over bare, open slopes, and the ridges held by Warren are so steep that guns cannot be placed on them. But we are shelling the enemy's position with howitzers and field artillery placed on lower ground behind infantry.

"The enemy is replying with Croust and other artillery. In this duel the advantage rests with us, as we appear to be searching his trenches, and his artillery fire is not causing us much loss.

"An attempt will be made tonight to seize Spion's kop, the salient of which forms the left of the enemy's position facing Trichard's drift and which divides the drift. It has considerable command over all the enemy's intrenchments."

The Daily Chronicle publishes the following telegraphic message from Lady Smith, dated Jan. 22, by way of Swart kop, Jan. 23:

"Yesterday we could see British shells bursting close to the Boer camp on the plateau this side of Potgieter's drift, but the camp still remains in position there today.

"We heard very heavy firing all this morning. The bombardment here is slack, but the Boer big gun on Mount Bulwain is still firing."

A dispatch from the Boer camp, upper Tugela river, dated Jan. 21, has the following:

"After Commandant Botha checked the British advance yesterday morning it was expected that there would be no further action until tomorrow. This afternoon, however, signs were discerned of an intended movement in the British northern camp.

"When the heat, which was more fragrant than any yet experienced, had worn off, the British cannon started in full force, and their infantry advanced in extended order.

"Generals Botha and Cronje held the high hills over which the road to Lady Smith passed. When the Mauser fire opened, a pandemonium of sound filled the air. The vindictive crash of Lydite shells, the sharp volleys of Lee-Metfords and the whiplike crack of Mausers were interspersed with the boom of the Boer Maxims. The battle ended with darkness, but not without evidences of execution among the British that were manifested at sunrise.

"Field Cornet Ernst Emilio was killed; nor did the generals escape unscathed."

"At the central position, Swart kop, where the other road to Lady Smith crosses the hills, the British advanced from low kopjes on the banks of the Tugela unmolested. Then they entered the zone of Mauser fire, and although their naval guns kept up the usual terrible racket, the advance was stopped and the British had to count out their dead and wounded.

"Commandant Viljoen and two brothers were knocked senseless by an explosion of Lydite, but Commandant Viljoen recovered. Field Cornet Hellbroon was wounded and, on refusing to surrender, was shot.

"The British loss was probably insignificant. They complain that sporting Mausers were found on the field and soft nosed bullets, with Lee-Metfords. The Boers admit that sporting Mausers were occasionally found, but they deny the charge respecting expensive bullets. Not a shot was fired by the Boers with cannon or rifle at the Swart kop position this side the river.

"One thousand infantry and a battery advanced yesterday to the second row of low hills between the republicans and the river. Heavy cannonading proceeded at a range of 2,000 yards, but the federals maintained the silence of death. This must have staggered the British, as the advance was stopped, and this morning they had retired to their old positions."

The Fighting at Spion's Kop. BOER HEAD LAAGER, Lady Smith, Jan. 24.—A battle has been raging along the Olivier's Hoek road since Saturday between the Boers under Pretorius and 6,000 British. The fighting is in full swing at Spion's kop. The Boers under Botha and Cronje have been sent thither. The British elsewhere are only making a reconnaissance of the Boer positions. President Steyn was under fire at the foremost position of the Free Staters.

Noted Novelist Dead. LONDON, Jan. 22.—Mr. Richard D. Blackmore, the novelist, died yesterday at Taddington. He was born at Longworth, Berkshire, in 1825, graduated at Oxford in 1847 and was admitted to the bar in 1852. Among his best known works are "Clara Vaughn," "Lorna Doone" and "Cripples the Carrier," besides poems and translations.

General Brooke in Washington. WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—General John R. Brooke, formerly governor general of Cuba, has arrived in Washington from the south. He was accompanied by Mrs. Brooke and his aid, Captain James T. Dean.

Osman Digna Locked Up. SUAKIN, Egypt, Jan. 22.—Osman Digna, principal general of the late Khalfa Abdullah, who was captured last Thursday in the hills near Tokar, was brought here yesterday and imprisoned.

BAKE THEMSELVES ALIVE.

Russian Fanatics Thus Obtain Release From Trouble.

Baking themselves in huge roaring ovens is the climax of emotional enthusiasm and self sacrifice of a strange sect of Russians. They are the Begonny, and they live in the village of Ternowo, near Tiraspol.

The sect's origin was rather political and economical than religious, their agitations having always been directed toward greater personal liberty and political power for individual members of society.

They demand the abolition of documents for proving identity and also the abolition of the necessity for the passport. They repudiate compulsory military service, and if forced to bear arms they are liable to emotional enthusiasm, leading to self sacrifice. The form of death which they adopt is usually burial while alive, but occasionally it is self destruction by fire.

When the last great sacrifice of the sect was made, the people adopted the voluntary cremation method as a means of getting an eternal release from their troubles. On a single day four families went out from a village and did themselves to death. A huge oven was built, and into it those who voluntarily decided to die plunged themselves.

The people who lacked the necessary enthusiasm or strength of mind or who felt that they were not worthy of attempting the great achievement knelt and prayed while they wept for their relatives and friends, whose charred bones they kissed in an ecstasy of affection and admiration.

The Doctors Disagreed.

Some Vienna savans were lately confronted with a language difficulty. According to the Independence Belge, a young girl, unknown, was found unconscious in a street at Presburg and was conveyed to the hospital at Vienna, where she recovered consciousness and began to speak in a language which no one present could understand. The doctors came to the conclusion that the young woman was a native of an eastern country.

Consequently some professors from the oriental school were called in, and they were all agreed that the girl did not speak a correct language, but a dialect. The professor of Persian held that she spoke a Persian dialect and that he understood it. Another professor was of opinion that it was an Abyssinian dialect. A third was convinced that it was a Turkish patois.

Since the savans were not agreed the police deemed it necessary to make inquiries, with the result that the stranger was proved to be a Hungarian who had escaped from a prison and who did not understand a word of Persian, Abyssinian or Turkish.—London Globe.

Raising Leeches.

Leech farmers go about their business in an interesting way. Having fenced and watered a suitable meadow, they proceed to sow it with leeches by scattering their broadcast on the land from sacks containing 15,000 leeches each. All that is now necessary is to provide for the crop plenty of water and plenty of blood. The usual method of providing the latter is to drive old horses and cattle into the inclosure, but sometimes fresh blood from a slaughter house is supplied.—Chicago News.

Trite Expressions.

We are tired of hearing the expression, "Stood like a stag at bay." How many ever saw a "stag at bay"? Is it anything like the way a cow stands when a woman approaches with a pail? "Sounded like a fog horn whistle" should also be dropped. A fog horn is never heard in Kansas.—Atchison Globe.

Inquisitive people are the funnels of conversation. They do not take in anything for their own use, but merely to pass it to another.

Passions weaken, but habits strengthen with age.—W. E. H. Lecky.

Women Want to Sell Real Estate.

Seek Change in the Law That Gives Husband the Advantage.

Certain of Pennsylvania's married women are seriously considering the advisability of a crusade to do away with the legislative act which prevents their class from disposing of real estate without the consent of their lords. The only exception to this act, which, by the way, was passed away back in 1718, is the "femme sole trader." The deserted woman and the woman whose husband doesn't contribute to her support are the "femme sole traders." They don't require the consent of any husband to transfer their real estate or mortgage it or become guarantee for another person.

But the great majority of married women living in the Keystone State must get permission from their husbands when they contemplate doing business with their own property. The desertion concession was considered by lawmakers a great grant, but the women of to-day are not impressed with the magnanimity of the exception. They want the privilege of doing with their own as they see fit. It is probable that an effort will be made to bring about the repeal of the ancient act, and then the "femme sole trader" will cease to be a picturesque feature of otherwise practical Pennsylvania.

HOOD'S PILLS cure Liver Ills, Biliousness, Indigestion, Headache. Easy to take, easy to operate. 25c.

CALIFORNIA.

Thirty-One Days' Tour via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has arranged for a special personally conducted tour through California on February 27, by special Pullman drawing room sleeping car and connecting at El Paso with the "Mexico and California Special," composed exclusively of Pullman parlor smoking, dining, drawing room sleeping, compartment, and observation cars, for tour through California, returning by March 29.

Round-trip tickets, covering all necessary expenses, \$375 from all points on Pennsylvania Railroad.

For further information apply to ticket agents; Tourist Agent, 1196 Broadway, New York; 4 Court Street, Brooklyn; 789 Broad Street, Newark, N. J.; B. Courlander, Jr., Passenger Agent, Baltimore District, Baltimore, Md.; Colin Studts, Passenger Agent Southern District, Washington, D. C.; Thos. E. Watt, Passenger Agent Western District, Pittsburg, Pa.; or address Geo. W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Philadelphia. 1-18-04.

Justices Nominations. Secretary of Commonwealth Will Not Receive Certificates.

An erroneous report has been circulated in the State in regard to the filing of certificates of nomination for Justice of the Peace, in consequence of which a number of such certificates have already been received at the State Department at Harrisburg. They have been promptly returned by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, with the information that they should be filed with the County Commissioners.

As a great many of these nominations are not made until just before the last day named for the filing, some of the candidates may by sending their certificates to the wrong place to be filed, fail to get their names upon the official ballot.

The State Department announces that it will be well for all candidates for the office of Justice of the Peace to know that the Secretary of the Commonwealth has decided not to receive any certificate or papers nominating candidates for that office, and that the proper place to file them is with the County Commissioners.

OLD MEXICO.

Twenty-three Days' Tour via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has arranged for a special personally conducted tour through Old Mexico by special Pullman train of parlor-smoking, dining, sleeping, compartment, and observation cars, to leave New York and Philadelphia February 12, visiting all the principal points of interest in the "Land of Montezuma," and spending five days in the City of Mexico.

Round-trip tickets, covering all necessary expenses, \$300 from all points on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

For further information apply to ticket agents; Tourist Agent, 1196 Broadway, New York; 4 Court Street, Brooklyn; 789 Broad Street, Newark, N. J.; B. Courlander, Jr., Passenger Agent, Baltimore District, Baltimore, Md.; Colin Studts, Passenger Agent, Southeastern District, Washington, D. C.; Thos. E. Watt, Passenger Agent, Western District, Pittsburg, Pa.; or address Geo. W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Phila. 1-4-04.

FLORIDA.

Two Weeks' Tour via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The first Pennsylvania Railroad tour of the season to Jacksonville, allowing two weeks in Florida, will leave New York and Philadelphia February 6.

Excursion tickets, including railway transportation, Pullman accommodations (one berth), and meals en route in both directions while traveling on the special train, will be sold at the following rates: New York, \$50.00; Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Baltimore and Washington, \$48.00; Pittsburg, \$53.00 and at proportionate rates from other points.

For tickets, itineraries, and other information apply to ticket agents, Tourist Agent, 1196 Broadway, New York; 4 Court Street, Brooklyn; 789 Broad Street, Newark, N. J.; B. Courlander, Jr., Passenger Agent, Baltimore District, Baltimore, Md.; Colin Studts, Passenger Agent Southeastern District, Washington, D. C.; Thos. E. Watt, Passenger Agent Western District, Pittsburg, Pa.; or to Geo. W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Broad Street Station, Philadelphia. 2-4-04.

Some men never want to go to work until they have given every thing else a fair trial.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

Found Body of Hummel's Babe.

Last of Four Victims of the Lyeomg County Tragedy.

Buried in a stable on the Hummel farm, near Montgomery, the body of baby Delaney, the youngest victim of the quadruple murder on November 16, was discovered last Thursday morning. It was directly underneath the spot where Hummel's horse stood, and was covered with dirt, stones and cornstalks.

The child's skull had been crushed in by a terrific blow from some blunt instrument.

The Hummel murder was committed on the night of November 16, and one week later the bodies of Mrs. Hummel and two children were found under a strawstack a mile from the Hummel house. No trace of the other child, a girl about two years of age, could be found.

District Attorney Kaupp and Sheriff Gamble received information as to the whereabouts of the body. They took the midnight train for Montgomery, drove to the scene of the murder, and went directly to the spot where the body was buried.

Much mystery surrounds the affair, as the officials refuse to tell how or from whom they receive their information as to the location of the body. It was surmised that Hummel had confessed, but he and his attorney deny this. He displayed no emotion when told the body of the child had been found.

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