

HELL IN A TRAP.

Boers Capture Two Regiments of English Troops.

Gen. Joubert Outgenerals His Opponents at Ladysmith and England is Aghast at the Disaster—Mafeking Refuses to Surrender.

London, Nov. 1.—The war office yesterday received a dispatch from Gen. White, commanding the British forces at Ladysmith, reporting that the Royal Irish fusiliers, No. 10 mountain battery and the Gloucestershire regiment were surrounded in the hills by the Boers and, after losing heavily, were obliged to capitulate.

There was a continuous stream of callers at the war office until a late hour, everybody anxiously inquiring regarding Monday's casualties, but the war office declared that nothing had been received since Gen. White's dispatch communicating the news of the capture of the Irish fusiliers and the Gloucestershire regiment. This delay in getting further intelligence is attributed in part to the break down of the east coast cable, but it stands to reason that the war office must be possessed of further news, which it is probably not thought advisable should be published as yet.

The disaster has caused a feeling akin to consternation and in Gloucestershire and the north of Ireland, where the captured regiments were recruited, the blackest gloom prevails, families awaiting with beating hearts the names of the killed and wounded, which are expected to reach a high figure. Many homes are already in mourning in consequence of the losses sustained by these regiments in previous engagements. Public anxiety was increased by a special dispatch from Ladysmith, published in the late editions of afternoon papers, to the effect that Monday before dark the Boers recaptured the old position held by their heavy artillery, which Gen. White had reported silenced by the guns of the naval brigade, and had opened fire again. The dispatch further says: "The enemy is again closing in and the situation is one of grave anxiety. Beyond doubt the Boer retirement was a ruse to draw Gen. White into a hilly country and away from the British camp."

This last sentence is significant and confirms the opinion of military experts here that Gen. White is allowing himself to be outgeneraled by Gen. Joubert.

From the scanty advices received it seems tolerably certain that the disaster was a repetition of the battle of Majuba hill, though on a larger scale. The two regiments were allowed to march into a trap set for them by the Boers. It is simply a case of the Boer spider and the guileless British fly. In fact the whole engagement of Monday seems to have been brought on by Commandant Joubert, who skillfully conceived a gigantic trap, out of which, as the official dispatch shows, Gen. White only escaped with difficulty.

Gen. White advanced with the idea of driving the Boers from the hill seven miles out which Gen. Joubert made an ostentatious show of fortifying on Sunday. The Boer commander left a force sufficient to draw Gen. White on, while with the mass of the Boers he moved stealthily around the British right to deliver a flank attack and to endeavor to cut off Gen. White from Ladysmith. The British commander succeeded in beating off the attack, but only with great difficulty, and during the turning movement his troops suffered from a flanking fire. Harsh things are said in military circles of the British tactics, which have made possible the ambush of the Eighteenth Hussars at Glencoe and now the loss of two fine regiments. It is feared that Gen. White is no match for the Boers in cunning, and it is pointed out that if the British commanders continue to lead their men into obvious traps further disasters must be looked for.

About 5,000 fresh troops will arrive at Cape Town on Sunday next from England and will be available to reinforce Gen. White. Transports will arrive there daily after Sunday until by the end of next week 28,000 troops will have been landed in South Africa. These men are intended for Gen. Buller's army, but they will undoubtedly be sent to Natal if the situation there should become perilous. The British army will eventually reach the huge total of 89,634.

London, Nov. 2.—The breakdown of the Delagoa cable route, combined with the monopolization of the available telegraph lines by the government and British staff officers, is responsible for the fact that nothing further has arrived from South Africa.

London, Nov. 4.—Special dispatches from Ladysmith, dated Tuesday, give further details regarding the renewal of the bombardment. The Boers, having recaptured their old positions, re-mounted big guns. Their firing was accurate, but almost harmless. Some of the troops were slightly injured by splinters. Lieut. Egerton and his men from the cruiser Powerful did splendid work and quickly silenced the Boer guns. The Boers acknowledge having suffered heavy losses in men and horses in the previous battle. Little light is thrown on the actual situation by the news at hand to-day. The magnitude of Monday's fight, however, is more than ever evident. Virtually three actions were raging simultaneously, but it is obvious that the intention to roll back the Orange Free State troops was not achieved.

Gen. White has cabled the war office that in the engagement on Farquhar's farm near Ladysmith on October 30, when Lieut. Col. Carleton's column was compelled to surrender, six officers were killed and nine wounded. Among the non-commissioned officers and men the casualties were 54 killed and 251 wounded.

The news has a dispatch from Ladysmith, dated Tuesday at 10:30 a. m., which gives the first independent account of the cutting off of Lieut. Col. Carleton's column in the engagement at Farquhar's farm. The correspondent says: "The column was sent out Sunday night, made a wide detour and reached the spurs of the Draconsberg before dawn. Lieut. Col. Carleton stormed the heights with the bayonet

and maintained his position against great odds until his ammunition was exhausted and surrender had become inevitable. Nearly 200 had then been killed and wounded."

The real question now for the British public is, can Gen. White hold out another ten days or two weeks until the army corps arrives? Less anxiety would be felt on his account if it was not that every day seems to bring a fresh list of casualties, proving that much has been concealed as to the real state of affairs.

London, Nov. 4.—There is very little fresh intelligence to-day, but it is believed that the Delagoa Bay route, if not already restored speedily will be, thus giving quicker communication with the Cape. The situation is still hopeful.

The accounts that continue to arrive regarding the fighting on Farquhar's farm only confirm its serious nature and the narrow escape Gen. White had. On this point, the Morning Post remarks: "Nothing tells such a tale of battle as the list of the missing. When the missing exceed the killed, it is almost safe to write defeat across the story, because 'missing' means abandonment or surrender."

It now appears as if it were only the arrival of the naval contingent from the Powerful which prevented a worse disaster. It seems that when it was seen that retirement was imperative, two Natal cavalrymen concluded to convey a dispatch across the lines to Maj. Adye ordering him to retire, but the risk was considered too great and the flag signalling was employed instead.

According to dispatches filed on Tuesday, defensive works were being constructed on the hills around Ladysmith, and it was expected there that the big naval guns would be mounted the following day. The Boers were threatening to attack the town in force on Wednesday and Thursday and the women and children and other non-combatants were sent to the south-Ladysmith is provisioned for two months.

A dispatch from Colesburg dated November 1 announces that six police who were stationed at Colesburg bridge were surrounded and captured. This is probably the origin of the story that the Boers had occupied Colesburg. Colesburg and Berlin continue to supply statements of British reverses, the latest being that Mafeking has fallen.

The Standard publishes a dispatch from Luxembourg which says: "Until within a very few days Mr. Leyds has been in telegraphic communication with Pretoria through an indirect diplomatic channel, by means of which he has been able to inform the Transvaal of the supposed British plan to advance through the Orange Free State. With a view of anticipating this movement the Boers will endeavor to capture or isolate Ladysmith and then to press on to Durban, where they would be able to prevent a British debarcation, while the main Boer army would hasten to retrench steps to defend the line of the Orange river."

The special correspondent of the Daily Mail at Mafeking, under date of October 22, says:

"Gen. Cronje's bombardment of Mafeking was monotonous. The Boers fired 62 shells, but did no harm, the whole town, even the ladies, laughing at the affair. He threatens to bring a 40-pounder from Pretoria. Cronje says he is sorry, for the women's sake, that he shelled the town, but that it was not playing the game to send dynamite trucks among his men. Fifteen hundred of his command have since departed to the southward. Small parties of our garrison issue forth nightly and harass the Boer outposts. I hear that the Daily Mail's correspondent at Lobatzi is a prisoner in the hands of the Boers."

Cape Town, Nov. 4.—The Cape Times says it has reliable information that there have been no casualties among the British at Mafeking since October 13. After the heavy bombardment Gen. Cronje asked the town to surrender. Col. Baden-Powell was asleep when the messenger arrived, but on being awakened received him hospitably and politely replied: "I will let you know when we have had enough."

Uncle Sam's Army.

Washington, Nov. 2.—The annual report of the adjutant general of the army, Brig. Gen. Corbin, was made public yesterday. Gen. Corbin sums up the military forces now in the service of the United States as: Regular army 64,586, volunteers 24,574; total 89,160. The regular establishment consists of ten regiments of cavalry, seven of artillery and 25 of infantry. The volunteer establishment consists of one regiment of cavalry, 24 of infantry and a Porto Rico battalion. The distribution of these troops up to October 1 was as follows: In the United States 34,229, Porto Rico 3,363, Cuba 11,187, Philippines 32,315, en route to the Philippines 17,999, Alaska 199, Hawaiian islands 466.

A recapitulation of the casualties in actions and deaths in the regular and volunteer armies between May 1, 1898, and June 30, 1899, shows a total of 10,076 men. The casualty list alone aggregates 2,454, of whom 35 officers and 458 enlisted men were killed and 197 officers and 2,764 enlisted men were wounded. The death list, numbering 6,619, was made up of 224 officers and 6,395 enlisted men. Of this total but 38 officers and 458 enlisted men were killed, the remainder of the deaths resulting from various causes.

A Fierce Battle with Cannibals.

London, Oct. 31.—Mail advices from the Congo announce that Capt. Mohun, formerly United States consul at Zanzibar, who is commanding the Belgian Tanganyika-Congo telegraph expedition has reached the Congo Free State and was engaged, at the end of July, in a fierce battle at Sanguni, where the force consisted of ten Europeans, with Capt. Mohun commanding. Shortly after the attack commenced Baron Phamis, the Belgian commander, sent three companies of soldiers to assist Mohun, and the enemy, consisting of cannibals, were finally repulsed. The enemy numbered 1,500 men and lost 300 killed and 600 wounded. The Belgian force lost nine men killed and 67 wounded.

NOT FIT TO RULE.

Filipinos are Not Ready for Self Government.

A Preliminary Report on the State of Affairs in the Islands is Made to the President by the Members of Philippine Commission.

Washington, Nov. 3.—The Philippine commissioners yesterday submitted to the president the preliminary report which they had promised to prepare. The report appears to be a compact summary of conditions on the islands as the commissioners left them. The historical events which preceded the Spanish war and led to the original Filipino insurrection; of the exchanges between Admiral Dewey and the other American commanders and the insurgents; the breaking out and progress of the present insurrection, and finally a statement of the capacity of the Filipinos for self-government. A notable feature of the report is a memorandum by Admiral Dewey explanatory of his relations with Aguinaldo.

Upon the arrival of Dewey's squadron at Manila it was found that there was no insurrection to speak of and it was accordingly decided to allow Aguinaldo to come to Cavite on board the McCulloch. He arrived with 13 of his staff on May 19 and came on board the Olympia to call on Dewey, after which he was allowed to land at Cavite and organize an army. This was done with the purpose of strengthening the United States forces and weakening those of the enemy. No alliance of any kind was entered into with Aguinaldo, nor was any promise of independence made to him, then or at any other time.

The report states that Aguinaldo wished to attack the Americans when they landed at Paraanaque, but was deterred by lack of arms and ammunition. From that point on there was a growing friction between the Filipinos and the American troops. "There were no conferences," says the report, "between the officers of the Filipinos and our officers with a view to operating against the Spaniards, nor was there co-operation of any kind."

The commission in concluding this chapter says: "After the landing of our troops Aguinaldo made up his mind that it would be necessary to fight the Americans, and after the making of the treaty of peace at Paris his determination was strengthened. He did not openly declare that he intended to fight the Americans, but he excited everybody and especially the military men by claiming independence, and it is doubtful whether he had the power to check or control the army at the time hostilities broke out. Deplorable as war is, the one in which we are now engaged was unavoidable by us. We were attacked by a bold, adventurous and enthusiastic army. No alternative was left to us except ignominious retreat. It is not to be conceived that any American would have sanctioned the surrender of Manila to the insurgents. Our obligations to other nations, to the friendly Filipinos and to ourselves and our flag demanded that force should be met by force. Whatever the future of the Philippines may be, there is no course open to us now except the prosecution of the war until the insurgents are reduced to submission."

Concerning their intellectual capacity the commission says: "As to the general intellectual capacity of the Filipinos the commission is disposed to rate them high. But excepting in a limited number of persons these capacities have not been developed by education or experience. The masses of the people are uneducated. That intelligent public opinion on which popular government rests does not exist in the Philippines; and it cannot exist until education has elevated the masses, broadened their intellectual horizon and disciplined their faculties of judgment. And even then the power of self-government cannot be assumed without considerable previous training and experience under the guidance and tutelage of an enlightened and liberal sovereign power. For the bald fact is that the Filipinos have never had any experience in governing themselves."

The report shows that this inability for self-government is due to the old Spanish regime, which gave the Filipinos little or no part in governing themselves. After reviewing this Spanish system the commission sums up on this point: "This is all the training in self-government which the inhabitants of the Philippine islands have enjoyed. Their lack of education and political experience, combined with their racial and linguistic diversities, disqualified them in spite of their mental gifts and domestic virtues to undertake the task of governing the archipelago at the present time. The most that can be expected of them is to cooperate with the Americans in the administration of general affairs, from Manila as a center, and to undertake, subject to American control or guidance (as may be found necessary) the administration of provincial and municipal affairs."

The report concludes: "Our control means to the inhabitants of the Philippines internal peace and order, a guaranty against foreign aggression and against the dismemberment of their country, commercial and industrial prosperity and as large a share of the affairs of government as they shall prove fit to take."

The report is signed by J. G. Schurman, George Dewey, Charles Denby and Dean C. Worcester.

Chicagoans Cornered the Market.

Chicago, Nov. 3.—The corner in broom corn which has recently more than doubled the price of that commodity was, it is learned, engineered by W. L. Rosenboom and A. J. Klein, dealers in this city. They control 2,000 out of a possible 2,500 tons, worth about \$1,200,000, and expect to realize \$1,000,000 profit on the coup.

Exit Shamrock.

New York, Nov. 3.—The defeated cup challenger, Shamrock, followed by Sir Thomas Lipton's steam yacht Erin, left this port Thursday, homeward bound.

THE PEOPLE ARE WITH HIM.

President McKinley Returns to Washington Convinced of Popular Approval.

President McKinley and party returned to Washington from their western trip a few days ago. They had traveled 5,000 miles and the president made more than a hundred speeches in nine states. The president shows no signs of wear or weariness and Dr. Rixey reported Mrs. McKinley as having gained in strength and spirits in spite of the fatigue incident to so long and exciting a journey.

The remarkably full and exact programme was carried out without serious hitch or break, and members of the cabinet say the president returns to his duties greatly fortified by the knowledge that he has the sympathy and support of the plain people in his important policies.

President McKinley's western trip was planned primarily to honor Chicago with his presence at its notable fall festival. When it was proposed to have the Minnesota and Dakota volunteers back from the Philippines about the same time he promptly acceded to the request that he extend his journey to take in those states. The president has a high regard for all the men who offered their lives for their country, but he has a particularly warm spot in his heart for the soldiers who loyally remained in the Philippines after they were legally entitled to discharge.

Overwhelmed with petitions to visit cities and towns en route, he graciously

FAILURES ARE DECREASING.

Facts Which are Destructive to Theories and Plans of the Silverites.

In the first nine months of the present year the business failures in the United States, as reported to Bradstreet's, numbered 7,975. In the corresponding part of 1898 there were 8,555 commercial wrecks. The rate of decrease was about 20 per cent. In the first nine months of 1897 the failures numbered 9,833. In 1896, up to the first of October, there were 11,250. As compared with that year of doubt and depression, the decrease this year has been at the rate of 37 per cent.

It is necessary to go back to 1882 to find so small a list of failures in the first nine months of any year as have been reported in 1899. Even then the total liabilities were greater than they have been so far in the present year. In 1893 the failures of the first nine months showed total liabilities five times as great as those of the wrecked business concerns of 1899.

To understand the full importance of such figures it is necessary to bear in mind the great growth of the country. In 1882 it had only about 54,000,000 inhabitants. Now there are nearly or quite 74,000,000. In 1896 the failures ought to have been fewer by at least six per cent, than in 1899, to keep the same proportion to the population. On the contrary, there were over 4,000 more in the earlier year than in the later.

Such facts are utterly destructive to the theories and plans of the silverites.

PERSONAL AND LITERARY.

John Oliver Hobbes (Mrs. Craigie) is said to be the cleverest musician of all living novelists.

The Shah of Persia has one of the finest private libraries in Asia, and spends much of his time with his books.

Jane Austen's novel, "Northanger Abbey," was at first sold for \$50 to a Bath publisher who did not bring it out. The writer bought it back, and it did not appear till after her death.

According to the London Bookseller, the average annual production of books in 13 countries is 76,000, Germany leading the list with nearly 24,000, while Great Britain produces about 7,000 and America 5,000.

It is stated that Miss Adelaide Everhardt, who painted the life-size picture of ex-Speaker Charles F. Crisp for the Georgia state capital building, has been engaged to paint a similar portrait of the late Congressman Brand.

Miss Alice De Rothschild, who was recently naturalized in England, was sincerely devoted to her brother, the late Baron Nathaniel, and inherited a large life interest in his immense fortune. The lady is very clever and a social success.

Thomas Bain, the speaker of the Canadian lower house, is of lanky build, six feet two inches in height, and looks a typical rustic. This has gained him the nickname of "Farmer." He speaks in the nasal sing-song way of Maine and Vermont farmers.

Charles Laurier, a brother of the Canadian premier, is traveling salesman for a cigar firm of Calumet, Mich. He settled in upper Michigan a number of years ago. Mr. Laurier is about 40 years of age. The Canadian premier has a sister, Mrs. Lamarache, living in the same city.

The late Judge Charles P. Daly, of New York, was a charming conversationalist as well as a model citizen and an accomplished jurist. He met the duke of Wellington some 50 years ago, and the duke remarked to him that he seemed too young to be on the bench. "I owe my position," replied Judge Daly, "to one of those accidents of fortune to which your grace owes so little." "I recall my criticism," said the duke, grimly; "you are doubtless where you belong."

GAR'S MANNER OF FIGHTING.

Habits of a Large Hawaiian Species That Made Fishing Exceedingly Dangerous.

This is a fish story, but it is true if the writings of a man who signs "F. R. G. S." after his name count for fact. We all know the "gar," a long, thin gentleman like an elongated pickerel that often occupies a stall in our fish markets. They rarely attain a length of over 12 inches here, but at Aru, Fiji, and thereabouts they grow much larger and the bill, armed with sharp teeth, is a weapon to be dreaded. The fish bask habitually at the very surface of the water and become extremely excited and in the larger specimens vicious at the slightest alarm.

The gentleman who describes the incident was collecting specimens of shells along the reef in the Aru islands, natives toying the boat along the byways, tossing the useless specimens and bunches of coral overboard again. In doing this he noticed that almost invariably the large gars that were in the vicinity would start out of the water and dash away at headlong speed, glancing in and out of the water like a shot. One of the fish coming near the boat, he observed that as soon as its direction could be determined the native lifted up a peculiar flat basket that he carried and held it as a shield, at the same time raising his club.

The idea of using a basket as a shield seemed a comical one, but was nevertheless a good one, as a few moments later a native some 300 yards to the left lifted up a huge branch of coral, and, finding nothing in it, hurled it back again. It fell with a loud crash and almost instantly four or five gars darted from the water and rushed away with incredible speed. Two of the largest came flying toward the boat, clearing the water and glancing out again, and the native had barely time to utter a warning cry when one of them passed directly over where his head had been a moment before. The other came full at the native. For a second it was under the water, then out with a bound, flashing in the sunlight like a meteor.

The quick eye of the native, however, had followed it, and, stepping back, he raised the thick basket shield and received the flying gar full upon it.

The blow was so heavy that for the instant the man staggered and was nearly thrown over, while the fish, evidently stunned and confused by this sudden arrest of its progress, lashed the water about him into foam. A spear was soon put into it and the dangerous living arrow thrown into the boat.—Hawaiaian Weekly.

King of Belgium a Speculator.

The king of Belgium is a born speculator. From his parents he inherited three quarters of a million sterling. With this capital he began to speculate, and showed his mastery skill as a financier in his dealings in Panama canal stock. By judicious buying and selling he is estimated to have made four millions. Then he was seized with the Congo Free State hobby, which obtained such a mastery over him that his financial acumen was overpowered, and he sank his private fortune in it. Whether it will ever return good value for the money remains to be seen.—N. Y. World.

Scotland's Lincoln Statue.

Scotland seems a strange place to find a statue of Abraham Lincoln, and yet there is one there. It adorns a monument erected in old Calton burying ground, Edinburgh, to the memory of the Scottish Americans who fought in the American civil war.—N. Y. Sun.

A MARKED MAN.



PRESIDENT M'KINLEY RETURNS TO WASHINGTON INDORSED.

ly taxed his strength and robbed himself of sleep in an endeavor to meet the expectations of the people. This brought him into close contact with the people of the great northwest, and friends who saw him this afternoon report him as exceedingly happy over the reception given him everywhere he went. He is an adept at sounding the sentiment of the masses from such touch-and-go contact, and he comes back to Washington assured that the people are with him heart and soul in his programme to conquer a peace in the Philippines.

When he made a similar journey to Omaha a year ago the president was in some doubt as to the wisdom of claiming all the Philippine archipelago, but he came back an expansionist. When he started on his recent trip he had no doubt as to the policy to be pursued in the Philippines. His duty became clearer and inexorable from his viewpoint the moment the treaty of peace was ratified by the senate. He took the position that he was bound under his oath to establish the sovereignty of the United States over those islands, and he determined to use the army and navy to uphold the honor of the flag. No matter how much mist and uncertainty others dwell in, to his mind his course was fixed and unalterable, and for as many months he has been as true to it as the needle to the polar star. The enthusiastic approval of the populace has been highly gratifying to him.

Political opponents prophesied that the president's trip was an electioneering jaunt, but they can point to nothing of a partisan character in his speech or conduct. The president spoke to all conditions of men on the highest plane of patriotism, and there was no discordant ring in the responsive demonstrations. Everywhere he spoke it was apparent the president but gave voice to the patriotic fervor of the people.

So convincing were the demonstrations of popular approval that the president, according to his friends, is not merely willing to go to the country on the expansion issue, but is eager to have it pushed to the front in the coming campaign. Their conclusions may be inferential, but there is no doubt administration officials are now convinced there is no danger to be apprehended from what they term the "little Americans."—Washington Special, in Chicago Times-Herald.

Americans who have become unduly embittered by discussion of the policy of expansion into the old world should get a new grip on their patriotism. As yet there has been no American movement in the Philippines demanding American condemnation. The American flag raised in the suppression of the Aguinaldo outbreak must receive earnest and unanimous American support.—St. Louis Republic (Dem.).

They make the arguments of the Bryan campaign ridiculous. They will absolutely forbid the pushing forward of the silver issue by any sane body of inflationists in the great struggle of next year.—Cleveland Leader.

DRIFT OF OPINION.

¶ Bryan has nothing to offer Nebraska in the way of principles, and it is nonsense to ask the vote of the state as a personal favor.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

¶ The free silver plank has been dropped from the platform of the Illinois State Federation of Labor. Workingmen are up with the times.—Cleveland Leader.

¶ The anti-imperialists have formed a national league. The articles of organization do not tell what nation is responsible for their existence.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

¶ It is always the way with the democratic party never to get on the right side of a question until three or four years after it has been settled.—Nebraska State Journal.

¶ Mr. Bryan has been traveling through Ohio in Candidate McLean's private car, telling the people what a wicked thing it is to have money.—Chicago Times-Herald.

¶ Perhaps the most difficult task in political love-making ever attempted is the effort of the Louisville Courier-Journal to cuddle up to Hon. William Jennings Bryan.—N. Y. Sun.

¶ Chairman Jones is disposed to take up right where he left off in 1896. The gentleman from Arkansas overlooks a little progress the country has made during his absence.—Washington Post.

¶ Mr. Bryan told the Ohio farmers that they cannot afford to belong to the republican party, but they don't seem to think he knows as much about their business as they do.—Chicago Times-Herald.

¶ The democratic party ought to know from its performance in Hawaii that the American flag doesn't stay hauled down. The recent party goes out and the flag goes up again.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

¶ The silver people owe Col. Bryan an enormous debt of gratitude. If it were not for him, the phrase "sixteen to one" would probably be as far out of date as "where did you get that hat?" and some other playful products of the vernacular.—Washington Star.

¶ By an act of the republican legislature of Nebraska voters, if they choose can give the name of the party whose ticket they propose to vote. In Lincoln and Omaha such registration the first day showed large republican gains, which so alarmed the Bryanites that they have considered the advisability of securing an injunction to prevent the question of party preference being asked.—Indianapolis Journal.