

UNEQUAL BATTLE

Boers Attack an Armored Train Near Estcourt.

SHELLED BY ARTILLERY.

The Train was Disabled at an Early Stage of the Fight.

NINETY BRITONS MISSING.

News Comes of Another Engagement at Ladysmith in Which the Boers Were Defeated—Honor of Gen. Buller's Death Is Discredited.

Estcourt, Natal, Nov. 17.—An armored train, having on board a half company of the Durban volunteers and a half company of the Durban fusiliers, steamed to Chieveley Tuesday morning. On its return it was shelled by the artillery of the Boers, placed in four positions. Two trucks in front of the engine left the rails, toppling over. While the train was thus helpless, the British troops faced the Boers in skirmishing order and the Boers poured shot and shell into the crippled train. The derailed wagons were with great difficulty removed and the line was cleared, when the engine and tender steamed back.

During this juncture, Lieut. Winston Churchill, of the Fourth hussars and son of the late Lord Randolph Churchill, displayed much courage, as also did the driver and fireman.

Seven of the Durban's have come in, making 23 missing. Only 13 of the Durban's have returned.

The naval 7-pounder, which was in front of the train, had fired three shots when it was shattered by the Boer artillery.

The armored engine has many bullet marks and its dome cover is smashed, as also is its automatic exhaust-pipe and 25-ton screw jack. The tender is also pitted with bullet marks.

It is rumored that Lieut. Churchill is a prisoner.

Durban, Natal, Nov. 17.—The Natal Advertiser has a dispatch from Estcourt which says: "When part of the armored train was overturned by the Boers tearing up the rails, the British alighted and exchanged volleys with the Boers. The engine driver, when the rails were replaced, seeing the position was hopeless, steamed back to Estcourt with a few of the Durban's and 15 of the Durban's, including Capt. Wylie, who was wounded. The fate of the remainder of the Durban's and Durban's and Lieut. Churchill is unknown."

A missionary, a native but a reliable man, who has arrived at Estcourt from Ladysmith, reports that a big fight took place there on November 16. He says volunteers went out in the early morning and drew the enemy from its positions onto a flat, where the regular troops under Gen. White outnumbered it by outflanking the Boers, administering a crushing defeat and inflicting great loss.

More than 200 Kafirs, the missionary says, were employed by the Boers to bury their dead and the two trains, each drawn by two engines, carried away the wounded.

London, Nov. 17.—Misfortune steadfastly pursues British employment of armored trains. The fascination for which has given the Boers their first and latest victories. On this last occasion the British seem to have walked into a deliberate trap, with the result that, according to the best accounts, 90 men were either killed, wounded or missing. Of these the fusiliers claim 50 and the Durban infantry 40. It is believed that few escaped and others are prisoners in the hands of the Boers. Many of the wounded were brought back on the locomotive and tender of the armored train.

Capt. Haldane, of the Gordon Highlanders, was attached to the fusiliers and other officers were with them. In time of trouble Lieut. Churchill proved himself more a soldier than a correspondent, and his gallantry is highly praised on all sides.

The rumor of the death of Gen. Buller is discredited. It is understood that the war office has news that he is still directing affairs. It is also rumored from Pietermaritzburg that the Boer losses at Ladysmith on Thursday were heavy and included Gen. Lucas Meyer, who was either killed or wounded.

Fortune Came at Last.

Springfield, Ill., Nov. 18.—Maurice Meehan, an inmate of the Morgan county poorhouse, has fallen heir to \$20,000 bequeathed to him by his son, William Meehan, who went to the Back Hills in 1879. Nothing has been heard of him until a few days ago, when it was ascertained that he had been killed by Indians last May. In addition to the \$20,000 Maurice Meehan falls heir to his son's interest in three mining claims which are said to be valuable, and a large transportation company in Alaska.

Killed by a Sheriff.

Middlesboro, Ky., Nov. 18.—John M. Tate, former representative of Lee county, Va., was shot and killed Friday by Sheriff Bloodgood, of the same county. Tate was a leading democratic politician and Bloodgood a leader among the republicans. Trouble over politics led to the trouble.

Four Jurors Selected.

New York, Nov. 18.—The trial of Robert B. Molinesau was interrupted Friday by the sudden illness of one of the jurors, Daniel Fraud. Recorder Goff declared Mr. Fraud's seat in the jury box vacant. Two more jurors were accepted and there are now four in all.

Stretched Hemp.

Chicago, Nov. 18.—Michael Rollinger, who murdered his wife last December and then set fire to the house in an endeavor to hide his crime, was hanged in the county jail Friday.

IN OTHER LANDS.

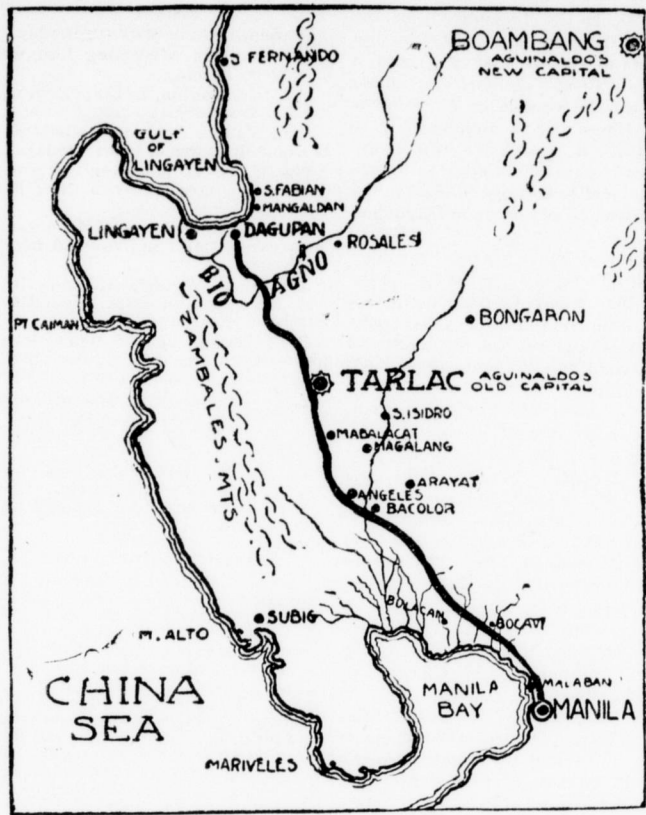
Parliament fixes freight rates in England.

Iceland ponies are fed in winter on fish heads.

France receives \$270,000 a year from taxes on bicycles.

Over 1,200 scholars attended congress of orientologists held in Rome recently.

Norwegian statesmen are planning a system of national insurance to protect people incapacitated to earn a livelihood.



Map showing the territory covered in the operations of the American forces against the insurgents. Aguinaldo has been located on the road to Boombang, whither, it is presumed, the insurgents' capital will be removed. Gen. Wheaton's expedition landed at San Fabian and drove off the Filipinos after bombarding the town. The Americans also have taken Mabalacat, and forces are operating around Angeles.

THE WAR IN AFRICA.

Boers Bombard Ladysmith by Night and Day—Gen. Buller's Plans are Evidently Changed.

London, Nov. 18.—The absence of news of any serious movement against Ladysmith seems to show that the Boers are repeating the strategy adopted by them at Dundee, when they appeared in front and endeavored to effect a surrounding movement. This seems to be their object regarding Estcourt, and since it is impossible that relief should reach there for some days to come, it is not unlikely that a further retiring movement on Mooi river will be made. Maj. Murray has returned to Pietermaritzburg to take command of the lines of communications and Col. Long, of the artillery, has taken command at Estcourt. The forces now at Pietermaritzburg are too weak to attempt to reopen communications. Artillery and cavalry especially are badly needed and it necessarily will take a very long time to obtain either, owing to the difficulty of training and the necessity of allowing horses to rest after the long sea voyage.

From the indiscriminate distribution of the various divisions at unexpected points it seems clear that the original plans of Gen. Buller have been wholly changed. Not the slightest word regarding the new plans has been allowed to escape. It has been reported that the Belmont fight arose owing to the advance of a British column to relieve Kimberly, but this seems incorrect, all of the most reliable accounts representing the engagement as growing out of a reconnaissance. The announcement of the arrival of Gen. Methuen at Orange river, however, doubtless means that arrangements are in a forward state for an advance from that point, if the advance has not already begun.

Kimberly was safe on Friday. Last Tuesday a Boer force of 600 entered Alwal North, Cape Colony, hoisted the flag of the Free State and declared the town and district to be part of the republic. The activity of the Boers in this locality would almost point to the necessity of insuring the safety of the column marching to the relief of Kimberly from attack from this direction, or from Bloemfontein.

Special dispatches from Pietermaritzburg and Lorenzo Marquez say that Ladysmith is bombarded night and day and hard pressed. On November 5, having during the night placed men close to the town, the Boers, after a heavy bombardment, began an assault, but were repulsed at every point with heavy losses. The Boers have destroyed one of the bridges over the Tugela river.

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FEW ARE EXEMPT

A Decision as to the War Revenue Law.

POLICIES OF INSURANCE.

An Order Defining the Classes that Must Pay the Tax.

THE OLD LINE COMPANIES.

Internal Revenue Commissioner Rules that Policies Issued by These Organizations Shall Pay, but Fraternal Societies' Policies are Not Liable.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Commissioner Wilson, of the internal revenue bureau, has rendered an important decision in which he holds in effect that the policies of life insurance companies which are exempt from taxation under the war revenue act are only such as are issued by fraternal societies or orders; beneficiary societies or orders; farmers' purely local cooperative companies or associations, and employees' relief associations operated on the lodge system or cooperative plan, and that the exemption does not apply to the policies of life insurance issued by mutual insurance companies per se, although they may have features of mutuality. A further restriction imposed by law on the exempted companies is that they shall not be "conducted for profit."

The commissioner says in part: "I am of the opinion that it was the intention of congress to exempt from taxation policies of life insurance issued by fraternal societies or orders, and beneficiary societies or orders which are operated on plans similar to the lodge or ritualistic form."

"It surely cannot be said that a mutual life insurance company is a fraternal society or order; nor can it be said that a mutual life insurance company is a beneficiary society or order, although fraternal and beneficiary societies may be mutual."

"This office holds that all insurance companies that are doing business on the old line or fixed premium plan, where policies are issued for a given, definite, fixed or stated premium payable or capable of being estimated in advance, in so far as determining the question of taxation on their policies is concerned are organized and conducted for profit, whether the premium is paid by assessment or not. The association when it collects a premium under this plan undertakes to carry a risk for the price fixed and agreed upon with the insured, and this amount must be paid, no matter what it actually costs the association to carry the risk."

"The other class of companies do a business on the assessment plan which is a sum specifically levied upon a fixed and definite plan within the limit of the company's or society's fundamental law or organization, to pay losses or losses and expenses incurred. An association within the exempted classes which is organized and does business on the plan of levying a sum upon its members to pay losses, or losses and expenses incurred, is prima facie not doing business for profit. This is the case where the assessments are made to provide for the payment of losses as they occur."

"Companies that make assessments based upon fixed premiums, to be collected at regular intervals, without regard to whether or not a loss actually occurs, are companies that are, in the opinion of this office, prima facie conducted for profit."

A Battle in the Street.

Chicago, Nov. 18.—A pitched battle occurred Friday between a number of Italians on Clark street, in which two men, Carmin Sealzio and George Latis, were probably fatally shot and several others badly injured.

SWIFT CAVALRYMEN.

Their Rapid Advance Surprises Filipinos—Much Property Captured—Maj. Logan is Buried at Manila.

Manila, Nov. 17.—Reports have been received here from Gen. Young, dated at Humingan on Wednesday. Humingan is about 30 miles east of San Fabian. Young is supposed to have advanced considerably further toward San Fabian. A correspondent telegraphs an account of the rapid pace with which Gen. Young covered the road with his cavalry. The Macabebe scouts completely surprised and demoralized the insurgents around the town. A messenger and reinforcements which were captured say no town from San Jose to San Nicolas expected the arrival of the American until a day or two after they actually arrived.

Johnston with Troop M, Third cavalry, captured at San Nicolas 12 barrels containing the wardrobe of Aguinaldo's wife, some personal effects, the records of the secretary of war and much commissary and medical supplies. Senora Aguinaldo probably escaped over the divide, but the secretary of war is thought to be inside the lines.

Thomas W. Hayes, a civilian, and Calvin S. Davis, of the Sixteenth infantry, who are held prisoners by the insurgents, have been rescued. Col. Wessels captured at Tayug several hundred thousand pounds of rice, 7,500 pounds of salt, 5,500 pounds of flour marked "Dayton, O.," 2,500 pounds of sugar, 1,300 new uniforms and hundreds of thousands of Mauser shells.

The names of Lieut. Gilmore and seven of his men were found written on the walls of the convent of San Quirino. The garrisons of all the towns surprised resisted feebly. Gen. Wheaton has not yet appeared.

The remains of Maj. John A. Logan, killed in action at San Jacinto, were buried in Pao cemetery Thursday morning. Many persons followed the body to the grave. Chaplain Pierce officiated, and the Twentieth infantry furnished the escort. The pall-bearers were the captains of the Twentieth infantry.

SOUNDS A WARNING NOTE.

Capt. Lowe, U. S. N., Says We Need 50 Submarine Torpedo Boats.

New York, Nov. 17.—The official reports on the Holland boat from John Lowe, captain United States navy, and the board of inspection and survey, of which the president is Rear Admiral Rodgers, were made public Thursday. Both reports agree that the trials have been successful in almost every particular.

Capt. Lowe concludes his technical report as follows: "I report my belief that the Holland is a successful and veritable submarine torpedo boat, capable of making a veritable attack upon an enemy unseen and undetectable, and therefore she is an engine of warfare of terrible potency, which the government must necessarily adopt into the service."

Of his personal observations he says: "Concerning the worse than uselessness of the present above water torpedo system, the need for a deliverance from its absurdities and from the fool's paradise of its false security and instead thereof the absolute need of a real torpedo system such as the submarine system, I have already reported."

"An eight days' dash across the Atlantic would bring the enemy's ships to Montauk Point, where they would encounter the American fleet, which, being destroyed by force of numbers, the remainder of the enemy's ships could pass on and anchor in Long Island sound in perfect security and very shortly Long Island would become a foreign possession. Do not consider this scheme a fanciful one. It is not original to my mind. So many have spoken of it that I am satisfied it has been considered and discussed in foreign councils and is part of their program. There are at least two nations which can do this single handed. We need right now 50 submarine torpedo vessels in Long Island sound to preserve the peace and to give potency to our diplomacy."

DARING ROBBERS.

The Whiteman Gang Appear in Court—Two of Its Members Remanded to the Tombs.

New York, Nov. 17.—Alonzo J. Whiteman, Frank Edmunds, John Thompson and Robert J. Knox, the alleged draft swindlers who were taken into custody here on Monday night last, were all arraigned yesterday. A telegram was read from the chief of police of Chicago asking that Whiteman, who is wanted there, be held until an officer now on his way arrives here with the documents for his extradition to Chicago. Knox is wanted at Pittsburg, where he succeeded in passing forged checks aggregating thousands of dollars. Thompson was turned over to Brooklyn detectives who had a warrant charging him with the larceny of \$200 through false representation from the Brooklyn Trust Co. Edmunds, against whom no specific charge had been presented was discharged and Whiteman and Knox were committed to the Tombs pending the arrival here of requisition papers.

Mining Engineers Strike.

Terre Haute, Ind., Nov. 17.—The mining engineers employed in the Brazil district went on strike Thursday to enforce a demand for an advance in wages from \$50 to \$75 per month. The operators offered to compromise by making the scale effective April 1, but this was not satisfactory to the men and they refused to work. All the mines are idle, and 3,000 men are out of employment.

Sensational Disclosures Expected.

Chicago, Nov. 17.—Sensational disclosures are expected to follow the investigation of charges of alleged bucket shop operations on the part of prominent board of trade firms now being conducted, and it is stated that the arrest and withdrawal from trading by Melain Bros. will be followed in a day or two by the withdrawal of another prominent firm. As a result of the disclosures of bucket shop operations already made it is stated that the next grand jury, which convenes Monday, will undertake an investigation on an extensive scale.

BETTER THAN A GOLD MINE.

Profits of the Tin Plate Combine are Enormous—Competition Stiffed—Eighty Mills Closed.

Washington, Nov. 17.—William H. Griffith, a tin plate maker of Washington, Pa., was before the industrial commission Thursday. He told the commission that his company, which has since disposed of its plant, cleared 20 per cent profit last year when the price of tin was \$2.60 per box, the lowest ever known for plate. He also said that just previous to the passage of the McKinley bill and for a year or so afterwards when the price was \$2.65, the profit was fully 100 per cent. He said that while his company had sold its plant to the trust the transaction had been without his sanction and that he had since undertaken the establishment of an independent plant, also located at Washington, Pa., which he soon would have in operation. The sale of the old plant had been made under the representation that the consolidation was necessary to prevent competition, and there had been a fear that if they did not go into the pool their business would be injured.

In re-establishing himself he had found that he was hampered in securing machinery, the American company having control of the makers of tin plate machinery, as well as of the manufacture of plate itself. He said that a manufacturing company which had entered into an agreement with him to supply him for five years, had already refused to fill an order after an official of the trust had become a large owner of the stock of that company. The restrictions also extended to the independent manufacturers of sheet iron, the American company refusing to sell to them except upon the stipulation that they should not sell their product to makers of tin plate. Furthermore the combination refused to supply jobbers and others with their special brands except upon condition that they assign their brands to the trust. There was a similar restriction upon block plate and half the "dippers" in the country had been forced out of business.

He thought the managers of some of the different plants in the trust were growing restless under these restrictions, as they were not running nearly as steadily as before the combination was effected. Of the 272 mills in the combine 80 had been closed.

Mr. Griffith said that since the trust had been organized prices of tin plate had advanced from \$2.60 to \$4.65 per hundred. This advance was out of proportion to the advance in wages and raw material. He made a calculation to show that \$3.84 would be a profitable price under present conditions. However, he said that notwithstanding this advance in prices he had reason to believe some of the members of the combination were woefully disappointed in the results. He also understood that the employees in the trust mills were becoming apprehensive, which he thought was illustrated by the fact that of the 800 rollers employed by the combination 150 had made application to him for places in his establishment.

Mr. Griffin said that while the American company was capitalized for \$50,000,000 the plants comprising the combination could have been bought at the time the combination was effected for \$12,000,000. He therefore considered the company overcapitalized. He had understood that the promoters of the combination had received \$10,000,000 in common stock for their services. The standard price paid for mills in forming the trust was \$40,000 each. His own company had received an advance of 25 per cent upon cash valuation.

The witness said he considered the tariff essential to the protection of the tin plate industry in this country, but he would not say that so high a tariff as the present was necessary.

THE KENTUCKY MUDDLE.

Gov. Bradley Keeps Politicians Guessing as to What He Will Do if Goebel is Declared Elected.

Frankfort, Ky., Nov. 17.—Gov. Bradley has the members of both parties guessing what hand he will take in the event of a collision between Goebel and Taylor over the governorship. Bradley's close friends say he will not recognize Goebel as governor if the state board goes behind the original returns in order to obtain for him a certificate of election. The governor will not talk, but as he is in conference with Adj. Gen. Collier almost constantly, rumors of this kind are worrying the democratic leaders. No governor will be inaugurated December 12, the date prescribed by law.

Secretary of State Finley has received official returns from 50 counties and is tabulating them for the state election board. Candidates for minor state offices on both tickets fear that the returns may show the head of one ticket elected with candidates on the other ticket falling likewise. While Goebel carries Campbell county, Burke, rep., for superintendent of public instruction, carries the same by over 1,000. Goebel managers assert that the whole Goebel ticket will win.

Taylor's friends have begun a quiet canvass of the members of the legislature, sounding them as to how they would vote on the contest if the state election board should throw out Knox, Johnson or Pulaski counties and also 1,100 votes cast in Nelson for W. P. instead of W. S. Taylor. It is said four democratic members of the house and at least six democratic senators have been found, so far, who will not vote to seat Goebel. This movement on Taylor's side is construed to indicate the opinion that Goebel will be given a certificate of election from the state board.

Propose to Test the Law.

Chicago, Nov. 17.—The Illinois Manufacturers' association yesterday directed its counsel to take steps to test constitutionality of the Illinois anti-trust affidavit statute. This action is taken not because the members of the association are connected with trusts, but because the affidavit contained in the statute is so broad that to comply with it is to make a false oath. Many corporations have refused to comply with the law and against them, if they are found guilty, penalties at the rate of \$50 a day for over six years have been running.

\$500 Reward

The above Reward will be paid for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the party or parties who placed iron and slabs on the track of the Emporium & Rich Valley R. R., near the east line of Franklin Housler's farm, on the evening of Nov. 21st, 1891.

HENRY AUCHU, President.
88-14.

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Tobacco and Cigars.

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JOHN McDONALD, Proprietor.
Near P. & E. Depot, Emporium, Pa.

Bottler and Shipper of

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BEST BRANDS OF BEER.

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