



GEN. BULLER DEFEATED

British Commander Near Ladysmith Suffers Reverses.

HE LOSES ELEVEN GUNS

General Hildyard Advances to a Position Occupied by the Boers Near Colenso, and His Men Are Caught in a Trap and Are Mowed Down Like Sheep Under the Galling Fire of the Enemy.

London, Dec. 16.—12:47 a. m.—The war office has received a dispatch announcing that General Buller has met with a serious reverse, losing ten guns.

MOLINEUX TRIAL

Important Evidence of Handwriting Expert.

New York, Dec. 15.—When the trial of Roland B. Molineux was adjourned today until Monday William J. Kinsley, the handwriting expert, was still on the stand, undergoing a severe cross-examination at the hands of Mr. Weeks, the attorney for the defense.

The other features of the day which happened during the long cross-examination of Expert Kinsley were the statement of the witness that he had one "side-tracked" Molineux as the possible murderer during his examination of the handwriting of the members of the Knickerbocker Athletic Club.

NATIONAL BALL LEAGUE

Conference Continued at Fifth Avenue Hotel Yesterday—Brooklyn Club Fined—Other Matters Considered.

New York, Dec. 15.—The meeting of the National League of Professional Base Ball Clubs was continued at the Fifth Avenue hotel today and the matter of the national agreement between New York and Syracuse are involved, was finally settled.

The claim made by the New York management against the Brooklyn club has been under consideration for the past two days, and the board of directors this afternoon reported that there was a deadlock and that they were unable to decide the matter.

At that moment I heard that the whole artillery I had sent to support the attack—the Fourteenth and Sixty-sixth Field batteries, and six naval twelve-pounders, quick fliers, under Colonel Long, had advanced close to the river in Long's desire to be within effective range.

"The fire, however, was too severe, and only two were saved by Captain Schofield, and some drivers, whose names I will furnish.

"Another most gallant attempt with three teams was made by an officer whose name I will obtain. Of the eighteen horses thirteen were killed and, as several drivers were wounded, I would not allow another attempt, as it seemed that they would be a shell mark, sacrificing life to a brilliant attempt to force the passage.

"Unopposed by artillery, I directed the troops to withdraw, which they did in good order.

"Throughout the day a considerable force of the enemy was crossing on my right flank, but was kept back by mounted men under Lord Dundonald and part of General Hart's brigade.

"The day was intensely hot and most trying on troops whose condition was excellent.

"We have abandoned ten guns and lost one by shell fire. The losses in General Hart's brigade are, I fear, heavy, although the proportion of severely wounded is, I hope, not large.

"The Fourteenth and Sixty-sixth Field batteries also suffered severe losses. We have retired to our camp at Chieveley."

Mine Inspector's Report

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 15.—Mine Inspector Ward Brennan, of the Seventh anthracite district, made his annual report today. During the past year there were 54 fatal and 81 non-fatal accidents, the deaths causing 32 widows and 79 orphans.

Steamship Arrivals

New York, Dec. 15.—(Clear): Lucania, for Liverpool; Amsterdam, for Rotterdam; Rotterdam-Arrived: Singapore, from New York; Sailed: Maudslayi, for New York; Brownhead-Passed: Steamer Cuba, New York for Liverpool; Umbria, New York for Liverpool.

INTERESTING TALK ON FINANCIAL BILL

SHARP PERSONAL COLLOQUY DURING THE DEBATE.

Mr. Bailey, of Texas, Gives an Hour's Speech Vigorously Presenting the Democratic View and Eulogizing the Democratic Organization—Various Speeches for and Against the Bill.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The closing day of the general debate on the financial bill in the house proved to be one of exceptional interest. At the outset a sharp personal colloquy occurred between Representatives Wheeler and Berry, of Kentucky, over the recent Kentucky election and the charges growing out of it.

Upon conclusion of the airing of the Kentucky politics by Messrs. Wheeler and Berry, of that state, the debate on the currency bill was resumed, Mr. Brewster (Pa.) speaking in favor of the bill.

Mr. Williams (Miss.) arraigned the Republican side for inconsistency and urged that it was possible by legislative enactment to maintain a ratio between the metals.

REPORTS ON WHEAT CROP

Statement by the Statistician of Department of Agriculture.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The statistician of the department of agriculture reports that the wheat crop of the United States for 1899 is 547,200,000 bushels, of 12.3 bushels per acre.

DEATH OF T. G. WALTER

One of the Most Popular Conductors in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Tunkhannock, Pa., Dec. 15.—Thomas Gratton Walter, who has been identified with the Montrose railroad since its inception, died this afternoon. He had the contract for laying the rails in 1872 and was made conductor of the first train, a position which he held to the time of his death.

MOONSHINERS CAPTURED

Internal Revenue Officers Seize a Distillery in Pike.

Honesdale, Pa., Dec. 15.—Internal Revenue officers, Edward C. Coburn, Jr., and Slack, of Charleston, W. Va., have seized an illicit distillery in Pike county, Pa., five miles from Hawley. They visited the place yesterday, but the owner was absent.

FIRE AT PHILLIPSBURG

Four Hundred Men Out of Employment.

Phillipsburg, Pa., Dec. 15.—A number of buildings containing boilers, engines, steam compressors and other mine machinery were destroyed by fire this morning at Morristown, the plant being known as No. 1 shaft of the Morristown Coal company.

OLD THEATER BURNED

San Francisco, Dec. 15.—The Comedy theatre was destroyed by fire this afternoon. The flames first appeared in the rear of the building and spread rapidly.

Governor's Appointments

Harrisburg, Dec. 15.—Governor Stone this morning appointed Robert Orr, A. H. Carter and E. B. Filson, all of Meyers as trustees of the College State hospital at Mercer.

PHILADELPHIA GETS THE CONVENTION

NATIONAL REPUBLICAN MEETING ON JUNE 19, 1900.

At a Meeting of the Republican Committee at Arlington Hotel in Washington the Quaker City is Selected as the Place for Holding the Next National Convention—Philadelphia Wins from Chicago by One Vote. No Opposition to Renomination of McKinley Appears.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The Republican national convention will be held at Philadelphia on Tuesday, June 19, next. The place and date were decided upon by the national Republican committee today after a friendly contest for the honor of entertaining the convention between the city selected, Chicago, St. Louis and New York.

The transportation committee reported on the injustice of corporations in not paying their share of local taxes.

The committee also urges the election of United States senators by the direct vote of the people, recommended a change in the number of delegates to State grange, and favored direct legislation through initiative referendum.

PHILADELPHIANS VISIT THE PRESIDENT

Immediately upon the announcement the Quaker City boomers who had been waiting in the city broke out in fine cheer and the hotel was soon given up to their jubilation.

QUAKERS ARE JUBILANT

Philadelphia, Dec. 15.—There was general satisfaction expressed on all sides when it became known here this afternoon that Philadelphia had been selected as the place for holding the Republican national convention next year.

BLOWN TO PIECES

Pen Argyll, Pa., Dec. 15.—J. Oswald Parsons, 23 years of age, was literally blown to pieces at the United States slate quarry here today.

DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED

Washington, Dec. 15.—Secretary Root has raised commutation of the death sentence imposed by court martial upon Corporal Danahof and two other soldiers of the Washington volunteer regiment, who were convicted of assaulting Filipino women.

WENT THROUGH A SKYLIGHT

Sarah Davis, of 323 Center Street, Painfully Injured. A cry of "police!" was raised in a resort at 323 Center street about midnight and one of the inmates, Sarah Davis, thinking that it was one of the nightly raids made by the police ran to a window in the rear of her apartment and jumped out.

BACKUS TEAM WON

Scranton Bicycle Club Bowlers Easily Defeated Last Night. The Backus bowling team met the Scranton Bicycle club's representatives on the alleys in Backus' place, on Washington avenue last evening.

THE QUAY CASE

Washington, Dec. 15.—The hearing before the senate committee on privileges and elections upon the legal aspects of the Quay case will take place tomorrow.

QUAKER HANNA'S RESIDENCE

Washington, Dec. 15.—Senator Hanna has leased the Cameron residence on Lafayette square, formerly occupied by Vice President Hobart.

WEATHER FORECAST

Washington, Dec. 15.—Forecast for Saturday and Sunday: East—ery Pennsylvania—Fair and cool; heavy cold Saturday night; strong fresh northwesterly winds become fresh variable.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: FAIR, VARIABLE WINDS.

- 1 General-General Buller Defeated. National Republican Convention Will Meet in Philadelphia. Latest Philippine News. War of Words Over Currency Bill. 2 General-Northeastern Pennsylvania. Financial and Commercial. 3 Local-Lighting Rod Man Visits Germany. 4 Editorial. News and Comment. 5 Local-Social and Personal. One Woman's Views. 6 Local-Carbonade Township Murder Case in Jury's Hands. 7 Local-Mayor Meir and Deputy Controller Hartley. Superior Court's Ruling Affecting Bakers' Licenses. 8 Local-West Scranton and Suburban. 9 Round About the County. 10 Local-Religious News of the Week. Sunday School Lesson for Tomorrow. 11 Story-"Semper Fidelis." 12 General-One Hundred Years of Change. 13 General-Musical and Theatrical Gossip. 14 General-Interesting Record of Cliff Dwellers. 15 General-General Bates' Mission to the Sultan of Sulu. 16 Local-Live Industrial News. Court Proceedings.

DUN'S WEEKLY REVIEW.

Unusual Depression in Stocks Displays Divergence Between Trading and Productive Industries.

New York, Dec. 15.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade will say in tomorrow's issue:

Unusual depression in stocks this week has displayed the great divergence between the trading and the productive industries of the country and its speculation. Never has production been greater, the number of hands employed larger, the wages distributed higher or the purchasing power based upon earnings than at this time, and never has the condition of trade or returns of earnings and profits given certainty of greater business for transporters. Yet as the earnings of the railway and manufacturing companies mount upward their stocks decline, as if it were disastrous for a road to double its earnings and for a mill to realize unprecedented profits.

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THE BATTLE IN NEGROS

Four Hundred Filipinos Were Routed at Madrigal.

TRIUMPH OF DISCIPLINE

Rebel Force Defeated by Twenty Americans and Eighteen Native Police Under Sergeant Alfred Roeder, of the Sixteenth Infantry. Insurgents' Casualties, Twenty-Eight Killed and Many Wounded. Major Batchelor's Battalion in Distress—General Young's Troops Shoeless Pursuing Remnant of Aguinaldo's Men.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The war department received the following cable message today, giving the latest developments in the situation in the Philippines: Manila, Dec. 15.—Batchelor, Twenty-fourth infantry battalion, reports on 7th inst. had an engagement at the junction of Magel and Rio Grande rivers, Isabela province, enemy leaving four dead and five mortally wounded in trenches. Our loss was one drowned and four wounded. Says he is in need of clothing, provisions and money. Will reach Tuguegaro, Cagayan province, shortly. Doubtless the navy received him yesterday. Four hundred and seventy-five Spanish prisoners arrived this morning, among them the sick at Vigan, numbering 120. Young, at Bangui, Northwestern Luzon, reports that his troops are still pursuing the remnant of insurgents who have twenty-three American prisoners in their possession. Country exceedingly rough. Our men, without shoes, still persistently pursuing. Few Spanish prisoners now in hands of insurgents, probably 1,000, mostly in south. Expect to effect their release in a few days.

"Negros reports Sergeant Alfred Roeder, Sixteenth infantry, twenty soldiers and eighteen native police, attacked 400 insurgents at Madrigal, Negros, this morning. No casualties. Enemy's loss, twenty-eight killed and many wounded."

It is believed by Washington officials that isolated bands of bushwacking insurgents who are caught by our forces in the Philippines are likely to be summarily dealt with. At the cabinet meeting today the matter was discussed at some length, and it was the general sentiment that the situation demands vigorous treatment. So long as the insurgents keep up a show of an army under a semblance of discipline they will be treated as prisoners of war when captured, but when they desertate into isolated bands of marauders, harassing our forces by cold blooded assassinations, it is the judgment of the officers in command in the Philippines and of the president and members of the cabinet that the situation demands summary action.

SPIES IN THE PHILIPPINES

Boston, Dec. 15.—A letter received recently from one of the officers of the United States ship Monterey at Manila, dated November 3, says:

"The Princeton today was ordered to coal to go to some unknown destination. Great secrecy is maintained nowadays. Even misleading statements are published in the papers. They do not fool the wily natives, however, who get information from the main source of orders. It is said, with reason for absolute belief, that spies have been caught with copies of orders which had not yet reached the person to whom they were addressed, and that detachments of soldiers, ordered by telegraph to move, have been ambushed in places which, but for spies, could have reached only by being informed of the intended movements. Secrecy at present is more of a pretense than a reality."

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