

TWO CENTS.

SCRANTON, PA., THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 1, 1900.

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BULLER'S TIDINGS ARE WEIGHED

The Troops at Ladysmith in a Deplorable Condition.

SUFFERING FROM DISEASE

While Holding Their Own Against Invaders in the Trenches, It Is Not Likely That They Could Act on the Offensive—The Queen Congratulates Her Soldiers—General Cronje and Family Are in Charge of Volunteers and Mounted Infantry—Terrible Cost of the War as Shown by British List of Casualties—Cause of the Surrender.

London, Mar. 1.—A. M.—General Buller's distinct success in storming Pieters Hill brings the rescue of Ladysmith near, but the war office indicated late last evening that an immediate announcement of relief need not be expected. The going to and fro at midnight of officials and messengers suggests that important news has been received. It was this was the case Lord Lansdowne obviously desired to sleep on it before taking the public into his confidence. As his message reveals, General Buller's successful attack after the hard fighting of Friday was improvised and its execution begun during the armistice of Saturday. In proposing the armistice the British commander stipulated that both sides should be free to move, but there should be no shooting. He was therefore within his privileges in immediately beginning to transfer his troops.

Buller's Tidings Weighed. General Buller's tidings come weighted with his long list of casualties. His losses in the four attempts to get General White out aggregate four thousand.

Ladysmith is in desperate straits. Charles Williams, the military expert, says he learns on very high authority—presumably that of Lord Wolseley—that "General White's force is almost at its last gasp."

"This is not so much," says Mr. Williams, "on account of any lack of provisions or of ammunition, neither of which are yet exhausted, as because of the poisonous water of the Klip river and the evil effects of the heat on the strain in which thearrison must reside. Even those who have escaped fever, dysentery and diarrhoea are in a state of low vitality. They can still be built across the void to lessen the difficulties of transport. Colonel Gironard, who built the Soudan railway, is with Lord Roberts. The strain on the western railway is seen from the fact that the population of Kimberley, two weeks after the relief, consists of reduced rations. Lord Roberts' troops thus far have been only partially fed."

It is quite clear to the technical heads that those who talk of an immediate and rapid advance far into the Free State do not realize the transport conditions. The Boers, it now appears, built a railway from Hartismouth to Kromstadt to facilitate the movement of their troops between Natal and the Free State. Mafeking was holding out on Feb. 16. At that time the Boers were showing unusual activity and firing inflammable shells. The Boers who hold positions south of the Orange river had been weakened. Lieutenant Barentzen, writing on behalf of himself and other Scandinavian prisoners, affirms that there are no mercenaries in the Boer army and no volunteers who receive a penny for their services.

CAUSE OF THE SURRENDER.

The Night Attack on His Trenches Caused Consternation. Paardberg, Tuesday, Feb. 27 (morning).—General Cronje's surrender was due chiefly to the gallant night attack on his trenches by the Canadians and the Gordons.

Yesterday (Monday), the eighth day of General Cronje's resistance, General Smith-Dorrien had worked up the river to within 200 yards of the Boer laager, and had succeeded in sending it into a more and more confined space.

The British camp was awakened at daybreak this morning, the anniversary of Majuba, by the continued rattle of rifle fire. Soon the news arrived that the Canadians, while digging a trench close to the enemy, had been outflanked at a range of fifty yards. The Canadians rushed forward and occupied the edge of the trenches along the river, enfilading the Boers. That movement was followed by a cessation

of the fire, although an occasional shot was heard now and then.

Suddenly a regiment which was stationed on the crest of the hill perceived a white flag, and the men gave vent to loud cheers. It was the first announcement of the surrender of General Cronje.

Soon afterward a note was sent to Lord Roberts. It contained tidings of the Boer's unconditional surrender, and Major General Prettymann was sent to accept the capitulation.

At about 7 o'clock a small group of men appeared in the distance crossing the plain toward headquarters. Lord Roberts, being apprised, went in the front in the modest cart in which he sleeps, and ordered a guard of Seaforth's to line up.

A group of horsemen then approached. Among them was General Prettymann, on whose right rode an elderly man who wore a rough, short overcoat, a wide-brimmed hat, ordinary tweed trousers and brown shoes. It was the redoubtable General Cronje.

The Boer commandant's face was burned almost black, and his curly beard was tinged with gray.

Lord Roberts, on reaching the front, walked to and fro in front of the cart until the Boer general arrived; then he advanced gravely and kindly saluted the Boer commander. He motioned General Cronje to a seat in a chair which had been brought for his accommodation, and the two officers conversed through an interpreter.

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Boer Women Sent Home. London, Feb. 28, 8 p. m.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts:

"Paardberg, Feb. 28.—Cronje, with his family, left here yesterday in charge of General Prettymann and under the escort of the City Imperial Volunteers and mounted infantry.

"Later in the day the remaining prisoners went in charge of Lieutenant Olds and escorted by the Gloucesters and Imperial Volunteers, while the women are being sent to their homes."

"I understand that great dissatisfaction was manifest by the Boers on account of Cronje's refusal to accept my offers of aid for women and children and medical supplies. Very many of them are in a terrible plight for want of care at an earlier stage."

"I inspected the Boers' laager yesterday and was much struck by the ingenuity and energy with which the positions were made almost impregnable to assault."

"Rensburg was re-occupied yesterday by General Clements."

Queen Congratulates Roberts. London, Feb. 28.—In her despatch to Lord Roberts, following the announcement of the surrender of General Cronje, her majesty said:

"Accept for yourself and all under your command my warmest congratulations on this splendid success."

Lord Roberts replied as follows: "All under my command are deeply grateful for your majesty's most gracious message. Congratulations from the queen are an honor the soldiers deeply prize."

General Buller has wired his thanks to the queen for the telegram of "gracious sympathy and encouragement."

Burying the Dead. Colenso, Monday, Feb. 28.—Yesterday an armistice was agreed upon and both sides removed their wounded and buried the dead.

The Boers lost heavily in attacking, and many were killed among the trenches. The fighting was resumed last evening. It was started by the accidental discharge of a rifle.

It is reported that there are four hundred Boers near Ennersdale.

Hardships at Kimberley. Kimberley, Feb. 27 (Tuesday).—Colonel Buller, with a mounted force and a maxim, proceeded to Barkley West, where he was warmly welcomed. He left a strong guard, and then proceeded to Longland, Winserton and Klipdam. There were rumors of Boers in the neighborhood but no demonstration occurred.

The Diamond Fields Advertiser has called pointed attention to the fact that although Kimberley was relieved about two weeks ago, there has been no amelioration in regard to the food supply. It is stated that, as it was during the investment, to procure a tin of condensed milk or cocoa without a medical certificate. The inhabitants continue without many of the common articles of food, although meat rations have been increased to half a pound.

The Casualties. London, Feb. 28, 8.55 p. m.—The rapidly growing casualty lists are being classified as quickly as possible. They show that up to this morning the total number of casualties were 12,384, of which 2,319 were added during the last fortnight. Ten of the other Scotch regiments lost about 2,500, and eight of the Irish regiments 2,000. Then comes the Gloucesters (Northumberlands), while of nearly 200 colonials the Royal Canadians lost 121 and the Victoria mounted contingent 28. The casualties are classified thus: Killed, 1,992; wounded, 4,838; missing, 3,173; disease, 830.

Steamship Arrivals. Liverpool, Feb. 28.—Arrived: Oceanic, from New York. Southampton—Arrived: Lahn, from New York. Sailed: Friesland, from Antwerp. Sailed: Friesland, from Antwerp via Southampton; Teutonic for Liverpool.

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Pennsylvania Pensioners. Washington, Feb. 28.—Pension certificates issued under date of February 15: Increase—James Huret, Campdown, Bradford, \$14 to \$17.

MR. CAMPBELL'S TESTIMONY

COUNSEL FOR PROSECUTION IN CLARK CASE ON THE STAND.

How Testimony Was Obtained. Necessary "to Wade in the Mud." Money Paid to Mr. Hill—Opening of the Bickford Letter in Whiteside's Office.

Washington, Feb. 28.—D. R. Peeler, banker at Killeip, Mont., was recalled in the Clark case today. His testimony was to the effect that Representative Bywater had had a large package of money, containing between \$8,000 and \$7,000, in the safe in his (Peeler's) bank and had taken it out previous to leaving for Helena to attend the session of the legislature.

After Mr. Peeler, concluded, A. J. Campbell asked to be sworn, saying that he took the stand of his own volition. He is the Montana member of the national house of representatives and senior counsel for the prosecution in the Clark case.

Mr. Campbell testified that T. E. Lyons, one of the witnesses for the defense, had asked \$5,000 for testifying before the state supreme court or the senate committee. Mr. Campbell had told Mr. Lyons he could not pay him for testifying, but that he would pay him for his work in looking up corroborative testimony. Mr. Lyons had told him after that, that he (Lyons) had made a deal with the Clark supporters by which they obtained the votes of the Jefferson county delegation, including Senator Warren and Representatives Luddy and Hill.

After coming to Washington Mr. Campbell had learned that Lyons had made an affidavit that he (Campbell) had offered him \$5,000 to commit perjury. He had met Mr. Lyons after the latter came to Washington and Lyons had again urged him to put up \$5,000, but witness had refused.

Mr. Campbell also related in detail his connection with John Hill, telling how the latter had volunteered to relate his experience as a worker for Mr. Clark. Hill had complained, he said, that the Clark supporters had treated him badly and had asked him (Campbell) for money. He had then given Hill \$100 and also told him that he would pay him for other service in collecting testimony. Mr. Campbell added:

"I realized then, as I realize now, that if you want to find what is in the mud you have to wade in it."

Mr. Campbell told of the opening of the Bickford letter in Whiteside's office, but instead of admitting, as Hill had testified, that he (Campbell) had opened the letter, he said that Hill had opened it.

MORTALITY IN HAVANA. Apparently 61,423 More Deaths Than Births During Last Decade.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Major John G. Davis, surgeon, United States volunteers, and chief sanitary officer of Havana, Cuba, has forwarded to the war department some interesting statistics in regard to births, marriages, deaths and immigration. The statistics cover the ten years ended Dec. 31 last, and show that during that decade there were 40,509 births, 9,596 marriages, and 101,932 deaths, an apparent excess of 61,423 deaths over births. The death rate was heaviest during 1898, 1897 and 1896 in the order named. Of the total number of deaths during the decade 5,413 were from yellow fever, and 96,519 from other causes.

Of the 40,509 births during the ten years covered by this report, 34,498 were whites, 2,248 negroes, and 3,763 mulattoes. Of the births 28,489 were legitimate and 12,020 were illegitimate. Of the marriages during the same period 9,098 were whites, 394 mulattoes and 134 negroes. The marriages included 146 Americans.

Not including United States or Spanish troops, 46,082 persons arrived at the port of Havana during the calendar year 1899. Of these 28,201 were from the United States, 16,260 from Spain and 7,621 from other countries. During the same period 37,226 persons departed from the port of Havana, of which number 21,090 were bound for the United States, 3,352 for Spain, and 2,784 for other countries. The excess of arrivals over departures was 8,856.

M'LAUREN ON PHILIPPINES. The First Democrat in the Senate to Declare for Expansion.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Notwithstanding the agreement made by the senate to vote on the Hawaiian government bill at today's session, the final vote on the measure was postponed until 4 o'clock tomorrow. Practically no progress was made today, although it was under consideration near four hours.

Mr. Aldrich, at the opening of the session, made an explanation of the work of the conference on the financial measures, his statement resulting in a spirited debate. One of the features of the session was the speech of Mr. McLauren (Dem.) on the Philippine question. He scouted at the question of bugar of imperialism with which some of his colleagues were trying to frighten the people. He declared the question was not one of policy and maintained that the acquisition of the Philippines would be of immense advantage to this country, especially to the south, by opening to the United States the trade of the Orient.

Bogus Dollars at Lancaster. Lancaster, Feb. 28.—During the past few weeks a large number of bogus dollars have been put in circulation in this city and a still larger number in Columbia. A detective of the secret service force, is here investigating the matter. The counterfeit is a very good one, dated 1896, has a fair ring, is slightly under weight, a shade too thick and has a greasy feeling. The milling is somewhat defective.

Pittsburg Ball Club. Pittsburg, Feb. 28.—The Pittsburg ball club will carry some two dozen players this season according to an official announcement made by Manager Clarke tonight. The twenty-four players will go to Thomasville, Ga., on March 14 and the majority of them will be retained on the team throughout the season.

Order for Cars. Philadelphia, Feb. 28.—The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company has placed another contract with the Columbus Car company, of Pittsburg, for forty additional box cars of 20,000 pounds capacity each. The cars will be similar in construction to the 500 ordered by the Reading from the same company some time ago.

Attempt on Castro's Life. Two Shots Fired Yesterday at the President of Venezuela. Caracas, Venezuela, Feb. 28.—During the carnival procession yesterday, Venezuelan fired two shots without effect at President Ciriaco Castro. The president was afterward acclaimed by the populace. The city is quiet.

Great Britain, Austria and Russia Experience Difficulty. New York, Feb. 28.—According to the Mail and Express there is a report in coal circles today that the British government through an outside party was making inquiries as to whether it could secure 1,000,000 tons of bituminous coal here. There appears to be some trouble in Great Britain, Austria and Russia as to getting the coal needed.

Coal Is Scarce. A letter from a Liverpool manufacturing concern to one of its New York customers stating that no more orders should be accepted as the difficulty in getting sufficient coal to run its factories, was shown to a Mail and Express reporter today.

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Corporation Chartered. Harrisburg, Feb. 28.—A charter was issued by the state department to the Irwood Lumber and Trimming company, of Wilkes-Barre; capital \$500.

IN HONOR OF WASHINGTON.

Three Americans and Five Mexicans Killed at Pilares.

Chicago, Feb. 28.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Guaymas, Mex., says: "On Washington's birthday a shooting affray occurred at Pilares, in which three Americans and five Mexicans were killed. It seems that a friendly feeling had existed in Pilares, and in order to do honor to the United States flag was arranged on Feb. 22 to raise the flags of the two republics together on the flagstaff."

"The Mexicans had charge of the affair and raised the American flag above the Mexican flag, to the complete satisfaction of the Americans. But when the Americans showed so much appreciation of the act the Mexicans found they had made a mistake, and decided to lower and rehoist the flags, with the Mexican flag on top. Then the Americans declared such a union would be an insult to the United States flag."

"Superintendent Danforth told the Mexicans that they would have to shoot him before they could haul down the American flag. The Americans said that the flags should have been properly hoisted in the first place. They were in the second room of the first floor of the house. In the first room was found Frances Kerwin, a handsome young woman, suffering from the effects of gas, which she had inhaled. She was alone and almost unconscious when the door of her room was broken in. The Kerwin girl was an intimate friend of Myrtle Thompson. The death of the two in the adjoining room is a mystery."

Spilde's father says his son was addicted to the use of morphine, and a physician who was called and viewed the bodies said it was evidently a case of morphine poisoning with both victims.

Myrtle Thompson came to Pittsburg from her home in Clearfield, Pa., January 16 last. Mrs. Leroy, with whom the girl lived at the time of her death, said that Thompson was the woman's name. She had been at her house, 253 Third avenue, only two weeks. Prior to that she lived for several weeks at No. 225 Second avenue.

Shoots His Sweetheart. William Jackson, a colored barber, shot his sweetheart, Annie Houston, also colored, and killed himself in Alderman Negley's office in the East End today. The Houston woman had rejected Jackson and she had gone to the alderman's office to make a complaint against him for annoying her. Jackson followed her and after firing two bullets into her body turned the revolver upon himself. The bullet entered his brain and he died almost instantly. The woman was wounded in the chest near the heart and is expected to die at any moment.

Jackson's body was removed to the police station and his victim was taken to the hospital. The shooting was done so quickly that the spectators were powerless to prevent it.

Peter Engel, a slate roofer, was killed in Bellevue today by falling from the roof of a house which he was working on. His neck was broken and he sustained a fracture of the skull at the base of the brain. The accident happened at 10:40 o'clock and was caused by the slippery condition of the roof and the numbness of the victim caused by the cold. Engel was about 40 years old and lived on Ohio street, Allegheny. It is said that he leaves a widow and two children in Germany.

Griffith Clemons, about 45 years of age was found lying beside the Pittsburg, Virginia and Charleston railroad track, at Howard station, with his skull crushed. He was brought to the West Point hospital.

The man died at midnight without regaining consciousness and nothing further is known of him. The body will be brought to the morgue to await identification. He is supposed to be from Youngstown, Ohio.

Excitement on Exchange Runs Very High. New York, Feb. 28.—Excitement at the cotton exchange ran high again today. At one time prices showed a net rise of 18 1/2 points after the market had opened 24 1/2 points higher. Even orders, European orders were pretty heavy, although the demand was general. There is said to be a large short interest in March cotton. The market finally closed easy and irregular at a net advance of 14 1/2 points.

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Young Hatten and Miss Daling disappeared from their Coatesville home on Saturday last, and were married in New York on Sunday night by Rev. William Sample, a Presbyterian minister. The father of Miss Daling followed the two to a New York hotel, but when he got there the eloping couple had already started to city.

When the young wife was confronted by the father at the Sixteenth district station last evening she refused to desert her husband, and they both spent the third night of their honeymoon in the station house.

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DAY OF FATALITIES AT PITTSBURG

MURDER, SUICIDE AND FATAL ACCIDENTS.

Five Dead and Another Dying Is the Record—Remarkable Discovery of an Apartment House—Lovers Commit Suicide—Murder in the East End—Man Found With His Skull Crushed.

Pittsburg, Feb. 28.—This has been a day of suicide, murder and fatal accidents. Five dead, one dying and another almost asphyxiated is the record. Mrs. Cora Piore, who rents rooms at 439 Third avenue, rented one of her apartments yesterday to Myrtle Spilde, an employe of the Columbia hotel. Today when she went to the room to clean it she found Spilde and a woman identified as Myrtle Thompson, lying on the bed side by side, both dead. It is supposed they committed suicide by taking poison.

They were in the second room of the first floor of the house. In the first room was found Frances Kerwin, a handsome young woman, suffering from the effects of gas, which she had inhaled. She was alone and almost unconscious when the door of her room was broken in. The Kerwin girl was an intimate friend of Myrtle Thompson. The death of the two in the adjoining room is a mystery."

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: RAIN OR SNOW, COLDER.

- 1. General—Perplexing News from South Africa. Puerto Rico Tariff Bill Passes the House. Testimony Before the Clark Bribery Committee. Pittsburg's Wave of Fatalities. 2. General—Northeastern Pennsylvania. Financial and Commercial. 3. Local—Court Proceedings. Many Questions to Be Asked by Census Enumerators. 4. Editorial. News and Comment. 5. Local—New Telephone Company Getting Ready for Business. Clever Minister Show. 6. Local—West Scranton and Suburban. 7. Round About the County. 8. Local—Live Industrial News.

BIG BLIZZARD COMING.

Heaviest Fall of Snow on Record in Chicago—The Storm Elsewhere.

Detroit, Feb. 28.—In the past twenty-four hours Michigan has experienced the most severe snow storm in many years. The fall in Detroit has been fifteen inches and throughout the state its runs from that figure to almost three feet.

Trains are many hours late or abandoned entirely. Street traffic in the small interior towns was abandoned entirely and in Detroit the cars are running irregularly.

Toledo, O., Feb. 28.—Twenty inches of snow has fallen in Toledo and Northwestern Ohio since early this morning, and the prospects are that there will be more than two feet before the storm has passed. Business in Toledo was practically at a standstill today.

New York, Feb. 28.—Dispatches from the northern and western portions of the state report heavy snow fall, a foot on the level in some places. Trains are moving as usual.

Chicago, Feb. 28.—Chicago was snow-bound today by the heaviest fall of snow ever recorded by the local weather bureau. In the twenty-four hours ending tonight at midnight, 11 1/2 inches of snow fell and the effect was disastrous on travel and traffic. Street cars were blocked by the huge drifts and trains are delayed.

Cleveland, Feb. 28.—From three to seven inches of snow fell within a very short time throughout northern Ohio early today. Railway trains were badly delayed.

DOUBLE MURDER AND SUICIDE. West Virginia Farmer Kills His Daughter, Her Lover and Himself. Bluefield, W. Va., Feb. 28.—Joseph Glean, a farmer living near here, killed Ellen Glean, his daughter, and Albert Marsh, her lover and then cut his own throat last night. Glean had forbidden the young man to call on his daughter. On returning home last night he found Marsh in the parlor with Miss Glean.

He ordered Marsh to leave and upon his refusal to do so took a shotgun and fired at him. Miss G