

# BULLER ADVANCING TO LADYSMITH.

## CROSSED THE TUGELA.

The Result of the War May Be Staked on the Coming Battle—General Buller Reported Disabled.

Gen. Buller is undoubtedly making another advance to the relief of Ladysmith. A dispatch, dated Sunday at Durban, says: "Gen. Buller crossed the Tugela river Friday night and is marching on Ladysmith. No definite news will be permitted to go out until Ladysmith is relieved. It is probable that Buller crossed at a spot above Trenchard's drift and that, leaving the enemy to the right, he is marching to Acton Homes, whence the road to Ladysmith runs almost due east, through a fairly open country.

Another dispatch says Gen. Buller has undoubtedly secured the road to Ladysmith and should reach his objective point this week. It is believed that the object of the Boers in occupying Ngutu, Zululand, is to secure the road from Durban to Ladysmith in case of retreat. From a reliable source it is learned that Gen. Buller was seriously injured by a shell in the light of the Grange, and that he will never be able to command again on horseback. The Boers admit that the attack on Ladysmith was a serious blunder and would not have occurred if Gen. Buller had been in command. Gen. Buller played the coward at Talaan and sheltered himself in a Red Cross wagon, shunning soldiers for fear of being unable to face the Boers since they threaten to shoot him.

The belief is general that all will be staked on the issue of the coming battle. It is probable that no press telegrams will be permitted to leave Ladysmith until the fighting power, moral and material, of the army, was never higher than it is now.

Messages are now freely exchanged between the camps of Gen. Buller and Gen. White by night with calcium lamp, by day with heliograph. The men here are enthusiastic at the prospect of speedy advances under Buller's instructions. A very large convoy of stores for the besieged garrison will accompany the relieving force. The Boers have repaired the road bridge over the Tugela at Colenso sufficiently for the passing of cavalry.

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## MRS. WITTEMEYER DEAD.

Famous as an Army Nurse and for Her Work for Temperance Among the Soldiers.

Mrs. Annie Wittmeyer, who was one of the best known nurses in the union army in the civil war, died very unexpectedly Friday morning at her home at San Antonio, Pa., of a fatal attack of pneumonia, after a long illness of a few hours.

Mrs. Wittmeyer was descended from patriotic ancestors. Her great-grandfather was an officer in the French-Indian war and was an officer in the American revolutionary war. Her great-grandfather was also an officer in that war and was killed at Saratoga. Her father served in the war of 1812 and three of her brothers were soldiers during the civil war.

Mrs. Wittmeyer entered the hospital service of the union army in April, 1862, and served until November, 1865, ministering to the dying and wounded on many battlefields. She introduced the sanitary kitchen system in the army and was commended by the sanitary and Christian commissions and by the surgeon-general for this work. She was active in raising \$200,000 for supplies for the soldiers, contributing \$1000 from her own means.

It was Mrs. Wittmeyer who originated the movement for the soldiers' home at Davenport, Iowa, and was prominent in establishing the Pennsylvania Soldiers' Memorial home, of the board of managers of which she was many years president. She served as national president of the women's relief corps of Ohio, and was chief of the corps of the Grand Army of the Republic and chiefly through her efforts the national home founded by this organization was secured.

For 25 years she was president of the annual W. C. T. U. convention, and for the most active members of that body. The army pension law was passed in 1882, and Mrs. Wittmeyer was one of 50 nurses who were thereby enabled to obtain a pension of \$12 a month.

## ANOTHER COAL DEAL.

Eastern Capitalists Secure 1,000 Acres of Fine Land at Tarentum, Pa.

Another coal deal of much importance to Tarentum and the adjacent town of Eastern capitalists, which has been consummated. Newton Stewart, of the firm of J. C. Stewart & Son, of Tarentum, Pa., secured a telegram that effect Tuesday from G. T. White, of Philadelphia, who represents a number of Eastern capitalists. The deal in question means that 1,000 acres of land is conceded to be the finest coal land in the Allegheny Valley will be developed in the near future.

The purchasers are Philadelphia capitalists, with unlimited capital, and are being controlled by the Coal Trust, which will be able to supply coal by water to all points between Pittsburgh and New Orleans at prices far below the present market rate. The quality of the coal is said to be excellent, tests having been made by an expert chemist of Philadelphia.

The development of the property will employ several hundred men, and fully \$500,000 will be spent in the erection of buildings, machinery and other necessary equipment for the successful operation of the mines.

Secret of Standard's Success.

A statement by S. C. T. Dodd, solicitor of the Standard Oil Company, concerning dividends and the company's success in the present year, has been published by the industrial commission. It shows that the company's dividends have varied from 54 per cent. per annum in 1882 to 33 per cent. in 1897. Speaking of the Standard Oil Company's success, Mr. Dodd says:

"They have obtained and utilized the best scientific skill in investigating and experimenting upon the obtaining of new and useful products from petroleum and have cheapened illuminating oil and otherwise benefited mankind by the utilization of these products.

# LATEST NEWS NOTES.

## The Belgian glass workers are on strike.

The winter in the interior of Alaska has been mild and the snowfall light.

A receiver has been appointed for the Foresters of Illinois, a beneficial society.

At Yorkville, O., men of the Ohio and Pennsylvania coal mines are striking.

Youngstown, O., merchants suffer a loss of over half a million dollars by fire Friday.

The City of Puebla arrived Monday at San Francisco from Manila with only one passenger.

The Boers blew up the railroad line from the British front at Modder river for a long distance.

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# MILITARY RULE SOON TO END.

## PRESIDENT'S PLANS.

Civil Administration to be Established in the Philippines—Will Not Wait for Congress to Act in the Matter.

The president is preparing to replace the military government under Gen. Otis in the Philippines by a purely civil administration as soon as proper men for the responsibilities can be induced to go to Manila. He has decided not to wait for Congress to act on the matter, recognizing that much time will be lost in the meantime.

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# REVIEW OF TRADE.

## Large Amount of Work Turned Out in January—New Business Falling Off—Weekly Editor.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s "Weekly Review of Trade" gives out the following: "With the one exception of woolen manufactures, chief industries have met less new business in January than last year, though deliveries on previous contracts have been larger than a year ago. In work turned out, the past month probably surpasses all others, except wheat a cent, but wool, silver, and stronger in others, so that the average of quotations is steady, notwithstanding some sales at concession. The iron and steel industry is so far tied up by contracts, that the most of the year, that the effect of production exceeding consumption is felt only in some branches, but little lower prices have been made for foundry iron in considerable transactions, though Bessemer does not yield, but steel billets are offered by some at \$33 per ton. Differences between producers and some of the highest consumers of the market. In plates and bars concessions are still made to secure business. In nails, structural forms, in plates and nails prices are held firmly. Fairly good demand for iron and steel in the United States and in Canada.

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# TRIBUTE TO WOMANHOOD.

## Cardinal Gibbons Denounces Mormonism and Severity Criticizes Society Women.

Roberts Case Referred to.

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# KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED.

## \$60,000 COAL DEAL.

Will Drill Test Wells for Gas—Was Forewarned of Gas Death—Positions Granted.

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