

A BRAVE STAND AMONG KOPIES.

ROBERTS' FORCES HALTED.

British Commander Says Over One Hundred Dead Found and Twenty Prisoners Taken—Several Officers Lost.

That Gen. Roberts has begun his advance on Bloemfontein, the capital of the Orange Free State, is evidenced by a dispatch from him, dated at Driefontein, 7:15 a. m., Sunday, which is as follows:

"The enemy opposed us throughout yesterday's march, and from their intimate knowledge of the country gave us considerable trouble. Owing, however, to the admirable conduct of the troops, the enemy were unable to prevent us reaching our destination. The brunt of the fighting fell on Gen. Kelly-Kenny's divisions, the two battalions of which, the Welsh and Essex, turned the Boers out of two strong positions at the point of the bayonet."

A dispatch of Sunday's date from Greytown, Natal, 50 miles southeast of Ladysmith, says:

A force composed of Bethune's mounted infantry, the Umveti mounted rifles and the Natal police, with three Maxim's, under Col. Bethune, reached Pomeroy Thursday. The following morning the Boer pickets opened fire. A general engagement ensued, the Boers using pom-poms and two big guns. There was heavy firing on both sides. Col. Bethune, seeing the impossibility of dislodging the Boers without artillery, retired south of the Tugela with one man wounded. The Boer loss is said to be considerable."

"According to Boer reports, the fall of Mafeking is certain. There has been heavy fighting this week and the Boers have been shelling the town from all the outlying forts which they have captured. Col. Baden-Powell cleared all the natives out of town, but the Boers drove them back. The Boers are preparing for a final assault, with the idea that the capture of Mafeking will raise the drooping spirits of the burghers."

Telegrams from Poplar Grove, Orange Free State, dated Friday, say: Gen. French, who is 10 miles ahead, reports that his front is clear of the Boers. All other reports tend to confirm the state of disorganization of the Boer forces, Transvaal as well as Free State. The general impression is the further progress of the British to Bloemfontein will not be opposed.

A great amount of ammunition was destroyed today. This included several boxes of explosive bullets, on the outside of which the Boers had marked "manufactured for the British government."

Clements has occupied Norval's point and the adjacent drift. As soon as the engineers, pontoon and troops arrive he will cross the river, when the necessary repairs to the railway bridge will be commenced.

Gatacre occupied Burgheersdorp March 7 and was greeted with great enthusiasm on the part of the loyal inhabitants. His scouts report that large numbers of the rebels in the neighborhood are anxious to surrender. The Presidents Kruger and Steyn were both present at the fight of March 7, and did all in their power to rally their troops. The rout, however, was complete, the men declaring that they could not stand against the British artillery and such a formidable force of cavalry.

It is said there has been dissension between Kruger and Joubert and that the latter has resigned, as well as several other generals. Kruger will probably assume command himself. It is also declared the Boers will resist to the death against a war of conquest.

A correspondent at Lorenzo Marques says: I am reliably informed that high officials openly avow that the British flag shall never fly at Johannesburg. The place will be razed to the ground and the mines put in readiness to be electrically exploded from the fort as occasion requires.

Most of the gold mines, except those which the government controls, are in a shocking state. They are flooded, and the machinery is rusting and being willfully smashed.

Thomas Clayton, a negro of Herndon, Miss., was shot to death Saturday night by members of his own race because of an assault on a girl. He was called to his cabin door and bullets from a dozen Winchester were fired into his body.

Wheeler Going to Congress. Gen. Joseph Wheeler and party, who have been in quarantine since their arrival at San Francisco from the Philippines, on the transport Warren last Monday, were permitted to land Wednesday night. The general says he expects to take his seat in Congress and doesn't see why he should be kept out, as he resigned his commission November 30, though he was not relieved from duty until January. He thinks the guerrilla warfare will soon end and says when the Filipinos, whose general character he praises, learned the real character and purpose of the Americans, they seemed reconciled to our government.

All for American Gold. J. P. Morgan & Co., of New York, have been authorized to receive and forward any American applications for the British war loan. This is the first time in the financial history of this country that England has asked for a loan. The governor of the Bank of England gave the authority and empowered to bankers to deal with applicants, just as the Bank of England might deal with them if communicated with direct.

Nearly 1,400 persons were killed by an earthquake in Transcaucasia.

Decrease in Puerto Rico Customs. The effect of the uncertainty of the tariff situation as to Puerto Rico, is shown by a report prepared by Colonel Edwards, chief of the insular bureau of the war department, according to which the customs receipts for January were \$68,450, a decrease of \$51,410 compared with the receipts for January, 1899.

Mgr. Sharrett, Bishop of Havana, says there is no truth in the story that he has asked Rome to recall him.

LATEST NEWS NOTES.

Thirteen business firms were burned out by a fire in Redfield, Ia., Sunday. Mrs. John Gallagher, an insane woman, cut her husband's throat in bed at Joliet, Ill.

The grip has become epidemic in Boston and caused 19 deaths during the week just closed.

Joseph Ryan, secretary of the Irish Federation of America, died Friday night in New York.

Miss May Snyder, of Alliance, O., killed herself with carbolic acid because her father rebuked her.

Within six weeks 100 persons have died of smallpox in the southern part of Hinds county, Miss.

Great dining rooms for the poor, capable of feeding 12,000 persons daily, were opened in London.

A geological survey report gives the value of gems produced by the United States in 1899 as \$186,000.

Jose Muniz, vice president of the Cigarmakers' Association, was found dead in bed at Tampa, Fla.

Baron Banffy, late premier of Hungary, and Deputy Ugron fought a bloodless duel at Budapest.

It is estimated that 9,000,000 bushels of coal were shipped south from the Pittsburgh harbor last week.

Captain S. W. Terry has been transferred from the battleship Iowa to command the Washington navy yard.

Henry J. DuBois, a Wilkesbarre pigeon fancier, shot Eugene Smith, who was in his pigeon loft, and the man will die.

The San Francisco health board has decided that the suspected case in Chinatown was not one of bacillary plague.

The Katydid breaker of the Mount Jessup Coal Company, at Winton, Pa., was burned Saturday night at a loss of \$40,000.

General Otis is installing civil governments in the Philippines in anticipation of the arrival of the civil commission.

The gold mines in the Transvaal are going to ruin, being full of water which the government will not allow to be pumped out.

Warner T. Allen, indicted in the Brooklyn Rapid Transit case, surrendered to the New York authorities and gave \$2,500 cash bail.

The American Fisheries Company has gone into voluntary receivership in order to mortgage and reduce its capital stock from \$10,000,000.

The United States cruiser Philadelphia sailed Sunday from San Francisco for San Diego, and the horse transport Siam for Manila, via Hilo.

It is said at Sioux City, Ia., that Archbishop John Keane has been nominated to the Pope as the successor of the late Archbishop Hennessy.

Four children of the family of Arthur Williams, who were caught in a flood near Peru, Ind., and lived in a submerged hut four days, will die.

By an explosion in the Smith fuse factory at Pompton, N. J., Friday, four workmen were killed and the factory damaged to the extent of \$50,000.

The reported selection of Rev. Father Moeller as bishop at Columbus is denied at Rome, where it is said the propaganda has made no decision.

The latest insurrection against the government of Santo Domingo has been ended by the troops, who are chasing Pepin, the leader of the insurgents.

The President has received from ex-Mayor Cotes, of Bournemouth, England, a Wedgewood ware copy of Houdin's famous bust of Washington.

Edward Williams was hanged at Trenton, N. J., for the murder of Minnie Eizley. As the drop fell he was singing "Nearer My God, to Thee."

A. H. Morris, of New Castle, Pa., claims 40,000 acres of coal land in Preston county, W. Va., held by the Pittsburgh Coal Company, and will sue for it.

Miss Ellen Terry has almost entirely recovered from her illness and will leave Toronto for New York to rejoin Sir Henry Irving at the end of this week.

Colonel James E. Barnett, of the Tenth Pennsylvania regiment, is agitating the movement for the erection of a monument to the late Colonel Hawkins.

The bodies of 64 soldiers who died in Cuba were buried Wednesday in Arlington cemetery, making the whole number of Cuban victims buried there about 500.

Fire in Philadelphia destroyed three business houses in the retail drygoods district, entailing a loss of nearly \$800,000, and throwing 1,500 people out of employment.

ASSASSIN WAS SELECTED BY LOT.

FATAL BLACK BEAN.

Kentucky Officials Investigating a Startling Revelation Concerning Goebel's Death—Frankfort Full of Armed Men.

It is reported that information has been received which points to a deliberate plot to kill William Goebel in which many men were interested, and that there was knowledge that the selection of the assassin was decided by lot. According to this story one black bean was placed among a large number of white ones, and the man who drew this black bean was to become, and did become, the assassin.

This information came to Commonwealth's Attorney Robert B. Franklin, of Frankfort, Ky., in a letter in which it was stated that Bransfield Bertram, sheriff of Breckinridge county, who recently died from pneumonia resulting from exposure while here, stated to the members of his family shortly before his death that he was in Frankfort when Goebel was shot, that he had knowledge beforehand that Goebel would be assassinated and that a meeting at which there was a casting of lots was held the night before the occurrence of the crime. The names of the men who were at this meeting were not given, nor was that of the man who drew the fatal black bean.

It is said that twenty-five persons were in the plot and participated in the drawing of lots. The meeting is said to have been held at midnight, in the office of the secretary of State. After a full discussion of the matter it was decided that all should draw from a box in which had been placed twenty-four white beans and one black one. The person drawing the black bean was to kill Goebel.

The men in the meeting are said to have been largely picked men from the mountains, many of whom had participated in feuds and were crack shots. They were desperate characters, who had come to Frankfort spoiling for a fight and who were ready to engage in any sort of hazardous work, caring little for their own lives and equally careless of the lives of others. They had learned to hate Goebel so intensely that it was considered an honor to cut him down.

The Democrats and the Republicans in Kentucky are, for the first time since the present political complications assumed acute form, divided into armed and organized factions. Surrounding the capitol and the State executive building and camped in the grounds around Governor Taylor's home are nearly 200 State militia well provided with ammunition, while in the corridors of the capitol hotel, in which the Democratic State executive offices are located, and in the streets adjacent to that building, are 60 special officers, and the men and boys of a militia company that was organized in Frankfort Sunday as the nucleus of Beckham's State guard, besides scores or more of heavily armed citizens, partisans of the Democratic claimant.

INDIANS LOST MANY.

Five Engagements Between the Yaquis and Mexicans—Killed 200 in One Battle.

During the four days ending on Friday the Yaqui Indians and the Mexican troops had four engagements near Corcorit. The Mexican troops are endeavoring to force their way through this section of the country so as to keep a roadway between Torin and that point open for travel. The engagements resulted very disastrously for the Indians, as in the neighborhood of 200 are known to have been killed and possibly more. The Mexican troops suffered very little loss of life, though some 25 were wounded.

A dispatch from Ortiz, State of Sonora, says that on Friday reports reached there of a bloody skirmish between a band of 300 Yaquis and about an equal number of soldiers about 50 miles west of that place, in which the fighting was continued most of the day. The loss among the soldiers was light, owing to their being ensconced behind a natural breastwork of boulders on a hillside, with the Indians in the open. It was a cleverly laid trap into which the Indians were led and while they left none of their dead on the field it is thought their loss is heavy, as a number were seen to fall.

TO DAWSON BY AUTOMOBILE.

Three Frenchmen Expect to Make the Trip—The Machine to be Used on Water.

The French liner Aquitaine Sunday brought from Havre three Frenchmen who say they intend to attempt to go to the Klondike by automobile. They are the Janne de Lamare, who has been to the Klondike, and was for a time editor of "The Klondike Review"; Raphael Morville, who is a brother-in-law of de Lamare and who holds a fast automobile record, and E. Crom. They sent ahead of them an automobile of five horse-power and a motor cycle of three horse-power. De Lamare said that he intended on April 19 to start by automobile from Lake Bennett for Atlin.

"The automobile will go in front, the motor cycle will follow with a sleigh carrying provisions will bring up the rear," he said. "It is 112 miles from Lake Bennett to Atlin, and we expect to cover that in one day. Then we shall start on the long trip to Dawson City, which is about 600 miles from Atlin. At the place where we must travel by water. I intend to place the automobile in a large flat canoe and use the power in the machine to work the paddles."

The report of the statistician of the department of agriculture will show that the amount of wheat in farmers' hands March 1 was about 158,700,000 bushels, or 29 per cent. of last year's crop, as compared with 198,000,000 bushels on hand on March 1, 1899.

The corn in farmers' hands is estimated at 773,700,000 bushels, against 800,500,000 bushels on March 1, 1899. The amount of last year's crop shipped out of the country where grown is estimated at 348,000,000 bushels. Of oats there are reported to be about 290,000,000 bushels still in farmers' hands, about the same as one year ago.

LAWTON'S SLAYER.

He Received a Small Fortune as His Reward. Fund for That Purpose Raised in Luzon.

The latest mail advices from Manila tell a startling story of intrigue against the lives of American officers on the part of high Philippine citizens. The story was published in the New Orient newspaper of Manila, but was never cabled to the United States, probably because the censor would not allow it. It is as follows:

"It is known that the insurgents attempted to kill Gen. Lawton while he was on the north line, and the occasion was when Major Howard was killed on a river boat. General Lawton was to take that boat, but owing to some fortunate accident did not.

"When the news of Lawton's death reached Manila there was great rejoicing in certain native circles. It was at once proposed to raise a purse for the man who killed him. The officers of the Kallachuan Society took charge of the affair. Senor Poblet, editor of the El Pueblo Del Grito, was made treasurer, and within 24 hours he had over \$100,000 in voluntary contributions.

"The man who did the deed was a second lieutenant in the Guardia Civil named Garcia, and \$100,000 was thought to be entirely too large a sum to be paid a man in his position. After some discussion the amount deemed proper was put at \$25,000, and this was paid over to Garcia.

"The cash in the fund is constantly growing, and amounts to over \$200,000. The fund will be kept to reward others who kill American officers."

MUST FEED PORTO RICO.

Gen. Davis Reports That Free Supplies Are the Only Alternative to Starvation.

Gov. Gen. Davis, of Puerto Rico, has informed the war department that he has decided not to stop for the present the distribution of free food in the island, as the industrial conditions existing in certain portions of the island rendered it absolutely necessary to feed the starving inhabitants for some time longer. In some sections the inhabitants are beginning to raise sweet potatoes, but in the center of the island, or the coffee-growing district, there is nothing for the poor to eat. Any discontinuance of the food distribution would result in a large increase of sickness and the death rate.

The coffee planters are making strenuous efforts to clear up their fields, but having no money for the payment of their hands, the laborers have been laid off and are drifting into the towns, thereby becoming public charges. Unless fed at public expense, starvation will result and Gen. Davis has requested a shipment of 500 tons of rice, codfish and bacon, in addition to the 500 tons asked for about three weeks ago.

Gen. Davis is of opinion that the quickest and most effective way of securing relief would be through large expenditures upon public works. He states that if he could put about 25,000 men at work for three months on the roads, involving expenditures for labor, tools and supervision of some \$223,000 a month, the period of acute distress could be tide over. The acting commissary general of subsistence was directed to secure the food asked for for immediate shipment.

ASLEEP SIX WEEKS.

Girl Smiles, Answers Questions and Takes Nourishment—Remarkable Case.

Pauline Fitz Gerald, 17 years of age, who is strong and vigorous, has been lying in a cataleptic state at the New Haven, Conn., hospital for six weeks. During this time she has only spoken twice.

Her eyes are closed and she apparently is sleeping peacefully. The physicians have given her food by force, and she has digested it and gotten nourishment from it. They have not been able to discover any cause for her condition. They sent her Wednesday to the insane ward of the almshouse.

At the almshouse the physicians tried hypnosis on the girl, and in this way got her to speak.

During the first four weeks the girl was in the hospital her condition was cataleptic. During the last two weeks, however, this condition has decreased. In response to numerous questions she would often smile, but that was all.

Such cases as this, it is said, are rare, and are usually due to some powerful hereditary mental disease. The girl was born in Ireland.

Plague Suspect in San Francisco.

A case of what is supposed to be bubonic plague has been discovered in Chinatown, San Francisco. The patient, who is a Chinese, was immediately isolated and a large force of police is kept in Chinatown to maintain the quarantine placed upon that section pending the outcome of the bacteriological examination of the suspected Chinese. The physicians are not yet prepared to make a definite statement, but from others who have had experience in such matters, it is learned that the case will hardly prove to be one of plague, as the dead man has long been a resident of this city. Had he been a recent arrival from the Orient, greater alarm would be felt.

Precious Stones of This Country.

George F. Kunz, gem expert of the geological survey, reports an increased output of sapphires in Montana and the discovery of a fine blue stone that afforded gems up to three carats in weight. Beautiful sapphires of various colors were discovered in Grant county, Montana. The total value of gems produced last year was \$185,770, a gain of \$24,850 over the previous year. Diamonds to the value of \$300 were produced in the United States.

Eaten by Cannibals.

In two different letters received in San Antonio, Tex., from members of the Thirty-third infantry who pressed Aguinaldo so closely in the mountains of Luzon, comes the story that a member of the regiment who fell behind while up in the hills was killed and partly eaten by natives, known as Ygorotes, a tribe of cannibals. Private Mohavier writes one letter and Sergeant Bateman another, telling of this.

Joseph H. Choate, the United States ambassador at London, has gone to join his wife at Cannes, France.

RED ASH MINE DEATH LIST IS 52.

MAY BE OTHERS.

Rescue Work Still Going On—Slate Has Caved in so Badly That Task May Never Be Completed.

There have now been 52 bodies taken from the ruins of the Red Ash mine, at Thurman, W. Va., and it is now definitely known that at least two more bodies are in the debris, possibly more. Save one, all the bodies taken out have been identified, the one unidentified being the last one removed from the mine Sunday night. Five more of the bodies taken out Sunday night were identified as Albert Collins, Ed Harvey, Arthur Haut, J. L. Word and Dode Long.

Six days have now elapsed since the explosion and the effort to recover those remaining in the drift is being pushed as vigorously as it was at the beginning. The two bodies known to still be in the mine are those of Charles Perfather and Ed Hambrick, the latter a boy. The mine officials acknowledge that there may be a few more, as the miners employed here have the privilege of hiring laborers to assist them and no record was ever kept of the men thus employed.

The searching party has now penetrated every room in all the entries save a few in the eight left, and in these the slate has caved in so badly that if the bodies are under the mass it is said that it will be impossible to ever recover them. There is also a pool of water in the eighth right entry which has not been searched, and late this afternoon it was stated by the rescuers that Charles Perfather's vest had been found near the pool. It is believed that the body may have been blown by the force of the explosion into this pool.

An ingenious theory has been advanced by an official of this mine: "From the report of the rescuing party as to the location and position of the bodies taken out I am of the opinion that the explosion took place in one of the old passages in the eighth left entry and was caused by a trapper boy whose body has been found in this passage. The lad had evidently hidden some oil in there, as boys about the mine have a habit of doing this sort of thing. When the little fellow entered this passage with his lamp the gas ignited. We have been aware for a long time that there was gas in that locality and have always been very cautious about it. From the position of the debris in the mine it also shows that the explosion took place on the left side."

A TIDE OF LAWLESSNESS.

Reign of Terror in a New Pennsylvania Coal Field.

A reign of terror exists in the new Masontown coal field, near Uniontown, Pa. Robberies are every day occurrences, frequent shooting and cutting affairs take place and a general wave of lawlessness is being inflicted upon that recently staid community. Speakeasies are said to flourish in every hand and the local officers who began investigations are threatened with death if there is any legal interference. Constable Huston, of German township, the seat of the reported illicit liquor business, resigned this week, to avoid the fulfillment of threats made against him. Huston began to look after the speakeasies, but was promptly warned that he would have to let up or summary punishment would be meted out. As a result of his resignation German township is without a peace officer and the lawless element has a free hand.

Wednesday evening two Italians named Dominico and Peters, were waylaid and robbed near the Edinboro works, the highwaymen, three colored men, getting \$500 in cash and three jugs of whiskey. The Italians have risen in arms and many of them carry shotguns when away from home and have their shanties well fortified. James Bailey was shot by an unknown man during a quarrel near McKellandtown, but not seriously injured. Bailey's assailant escaped.

The grand jury at Media, Pa., found true bills of indictment against James Pierce and Amos (alias "Pinney") Pierce, his brother, charging them with the murder of George B. Eyre, of Chester, on December 21, last year. The trial of the cases has been postponed until the June term.

AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

President McKinley has commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence on Private George Murphy, of the Twenty-fourth infantry, who killed a comrade in Luzon.

Secretary Root has submitted to Congress a recommendation that the extra services performed by war department employes during the war with Spain be paid for by an appropriation aggregating \$85,394.

The House Committee on Territories Monday gave a hearing to Governor Brady, of Alaska, and a delegation from that section concerning the pending bill to establish a territorial form of government for Alaska.

The Senate committee on foreign relations authorized the reporting of an amendment to the diplomatic appropriation bill appropriating \$20,000 to be paid to ex-Queen Liliuokalani and providing for an annual donation of \$10,000 to her as long as she may live.

P. J. McCarthy, a fireman, was killed at a fire which caused a loss of \$100,000 in the plant of the Massachusetts Macaroni Company, at Boston. Christopher Curran, another fireman, was swept off a roof by a stream of water and probably fatally hurt.

Robbers Still Fighting.

Thousands of organized insurgents are resisting Col. Houston's Jattalion of the Nineteenth regiment at Antioque, province of Panay, which is the only province which Americans do not occupy.

The Americans lost seven killed. A battalion of the Forty-fourth from Hilo reinforced Houston's command. One hundred and fifty Tagalogs, armed with rifles, have surrendered at Capiz and have been transferred to Luzon. Six Americans were killed in an ambush recently laid by the rebels at Aparri.

AIMED VERY HIGH.

Goebelles Accuse Prominent Men as Assassins—Warrants Issued for Them—Secretary of State Among Them.

W. H. Coulton, a clerk in the office of State Auditor Sweeney, at Frankfort, Ky., was arrested and placed in jail Friday night, charged with complicity in the murder of the late William Goebel. The arrest was made by Chief of Police Williams at 9 o'clock.

Warrants have also been issued for the arrest of Secretary of State Caleb Powers and Capt. John W. Davis, policemen of the State capitol square. The warrants charge them also with being accessories to the Goebel assassination, and warrants against ex-Secretary of State Charles Finley and John T. Powers, brother of Secretary of State Powers, have been sworn out and have been sent to Whitley county for service.

Several witnesses who testified at the trial of Harland Whittaker Tuesday swore that the shots at the time of the Goebel assassination were fired from the direction of Powers' office, and he and all of the parties for whom the warrants were issued Friday night have been under the strictest surveillance ever since the assassination. Capt. Davis was an appointee of Gov. Bradley and was continued under Gov. Taylor.

Ex-Secretary of State Finley was one of the promoters of the mass meeting of the mountain men in front of the State capitol, January 25. He served as secretary of State during the four years when W. O. Bradley was governor. He was not in the city the day of the assassination, but left the day before.

Coulton, the only one arrested Friday night, was placed in a cell and not allowed to talk to any one. The other arrests will be made Saturday.

The warrant on which Coulton was arrested and the warrants for the arrest of the two Powers, Finley and Davis, were based on an affidavit made by Thomas B. Cromwell, of Lexington. Cromwell has been assisting the detectives in hunting down the case, and it is said that he spent several days in Hardin, Bell, Whitley and Knox counties, where, it is alleged, the evidence against the parties arrested was secured.

COST OF THE WARCOUNTED.

Sixty Million Pounds is the Estimate Made by the British Government.

In the house of commons, London, Tuesday afternoon, Sir Michael Hicks Beach, chancellor of the exchequer, began his speech introducing the budget by saying that the deficit for the fiscal year ending March 31 would be £17,770,000. Of this, £8,000,000 has been provided for by exchequer bills, and £5,500,000 had been provided for war out of the revenue.

The chancellor estimated the expenditure for the coming year would total £154,082,000. The deficit for the coming year was estimated at £17,000,000. The cost of the war would be £60,000,000. In order to meet the increased expenditure, the income tax would be increased from eight pence to one shilling in the pound, and there would be imposed the following increases in duties: One shilling on a barrel of beer, six pence on a gallon of spirits, four pence on a pound of tobacco, six pence per pound on foreign cigars, two pence per pound on tea.

The chancellor of the exchequer also announced that the government would contract a loan of £41,000,000. "This," he said, "I hope will be sufficient to terminate the war, but it is impossible to be certain that the war will end by September 30, and we may be compelled in July or August to ask for further provision."

MEXICANS FEAR MASSACRE.

Indian Bands Maraud and Soldiers Fear to Pursue.

Advices from Ortiz, state of Sonora, Mexico, are that the Indians have broken up into bands of 200 and 300 and are doing great damage over a great stretch of country. The Mexican soldiers do not show much inclination to go into the mountains, fearing ambushes and massacres. The Mexican government is puzzled to know the source of supply of guns and ammunition for the Indians.

HONEYCOMBED WITH SMALLPOX.

Whole Families in a Mississippi Community Wiped Out.

An official report made to the Hinds county, Miss., board of supervisors reveals an appalling state of affairs in the Jonesville neighborhood in the southern part of the county.

The community is literally honeycombed with smallpox of the most virulent and loathsome form, and during the past six weeks nearly 100 deaths have occurred. On some days the death rate has been so large that it was impossible to secure coffins and rude caskets were made from rails. Whole families have been wiped out of existence, and of several large families only one or two children are left. Many of the patients are now in a critical condition, without medical attention and dying at the rate of from three to five per day.

The death rate exceeds 75 per cent., and the entire lower portion of the county is demoralized. The board of supervisors will make an effort to check further spread, and at its morning session carte blanche was given to the physicians to purchase supplies and medicines. A bill for 43 coffins used within the past two weeks was allowed.

Plague's Increase in India.

The bubonic plague increases, there having been 411 deaths from the disease at Calcutta last week. This is causing a great exodus of merchants. The viceroy, Lord Curzon, of Kedleston, addressing some of the plague stricken patients, said he considered it his duty to visit all the quarters of the vast dependence committed to his charge.

A number of cases of what is supposed to be the bubonic plague have been officially reported at Buena Ayres. Urgent methods are being adopted to prevent the spread of the disease.