

WARREN IS WATCHFUL

Sizing Up the Boers Before He Moves.

HE CONFRONTS A HARD PROBLEM

Boers Brought From Ladysmith to Defend the Trenches.

Talk in London Takes a More Hopeful Strain—Times Praises Warren for His Caution—7,500 Boers at Colesburg.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

London, via Skagway, Jan. 31.—Gen. Warren is reconnoitering the Boer position and endeavoring to ascertain the strength of the enemy and the character of the defenses which they have thrown up between Speonkoug and Ladysmith. It is stated in the dispatches from Capetown that 5000 men have been recently withdrawn by the Boers from the vicinity of Ladysmith and are now filling the trenches preparatory to opposing the advance of the English forces to the relief of the latter town. Reports have come out as to sickness in Ladysmith resulting in lack of sanitary precautions, but the reports are believed to be unfounded. Warren's position is less than 2000 yards from the Boer line. A sharp exchange of artillery is going on continuously. The Boers have made an effort to recapture the town but without results. Warren will advance as soon as practicable.

More Hoopful.

London, via Skagway, Jan. 31.—A more hopeful view is taken of affairs in the war office and in the clubs. No doubt is expressed that the relief of Ladysmith will soon be an accomplished fact although much stress is laid upon the character of the country through which our forces must pass to reach the beleaguered town. The Times continues in its somewhat pessimistic strain and points out the serious character of the obstacles against which the British forces are contending. It praises Warren for what he has thus far accomplished and urges that the caution with which he is proceeding is absolutely necessary to success although giving the Boers time to prepare for a more protracted contest than otherwise would be the case.

The Boers occupy a strong position at Colesburg where they have about 7500 men.

War Correspondent Dead.

London, via Skagway, Jan. 31.—War correspondent Stevens, whose graphic descriptions of the war have been eagerly read all over England is reported as having died at Ladysmith.

Diamond Market.

New York, Jan. 18.—There is quite a commotion at present in diamond circles brought about by the unfavorable reports from the diamond fields in South Africa. The latest from Kimberley is most discouraging, the mines having been compelled to close down, causing dire depression bordering almost on famine, affecting thousands of work people who thrive by the cutting of the rough stones preparatory to their being placed on the Paris, London, New York and Toronto diamond markets. Antwerp and Amsterdam are the direct sufferers, and until the mining of the rough gems which these expert artists cut into perfect shapes again revives there is no telling how many other interests will be affected.

Murdered in Frisco.

Skagway, Jan. 31.—Further details of the murder of Fannie Hall state that the affair occurred in San Francisco, to which point the girl went after leaving

Dawson. As indicated in a previous telegram the murder was the result of a lovers' quarrel.

A Failure.

Capetown Jan. 10.—The troops in the British camp of Victoria West turned out last night to repel an attempt of the Boers to cut the railroad next to the station.

A patrol reported early in the evening that they had sighted the Boers in the neighborhood.

At 10 o'clock at night the Boers opened a heavy fire near the station. The British replied and the Boers retired at daybreak their attempt having turned out a failure.

German Steamer Captured.

Lorenzo Marquez, Delagoa Bay Jan. 14.—The German steamer Bundesrath belonging to the German East African line, has been captured as a prize and taken to Durban.

London, Jan. 10.—Regarding traffic generally on the east coast of Africa, the British Admiralty officials say the British government desires that all ordinary and legitimate trade conducted by foreign vessels should suffer as little restriction as possible.

Hamburg, Jan. 10.—The directors of the German East African line have received news of the arrest of the Imperial mail steamer Bundesrath. It is declared here that there was no contraband of war on board.

Boers Near Kimberley.

Kimberley, Jan. 14.—Before dawn today a detachment of the mounted forces, with artillery and light infantry, moved out in a westerly direction.

Boer artillery from Kamperdam opened fire at Ott's Kopje, Kimberley fort replying with 20 shells.

The British force reconnoitered out posts along Laceratto Ridge, the Boer patrols retreating. Having accomplished this and having discovered reinforcements approaching from Wimbledon Ridge, Col. Chamier, with Royal Artillery, exchanged a dozen shells. As soon as the guns could be limbered up some 500 Boers poured in a heavy fire from their earthworks.

The British finally retired with the loss of one horse.

The movement showed the Boers were still keeping three guns in the vicinity of Kimberley and are able to summon reinforcements rapidly.

It also showed their proneness to vacate a position immediately when weaker than the opposing forces.

British Attack a Fort.

Pretoria, Jan. 14.—Commandant Smyman reports as follows from Molo: "On Monday morning the enemy from Mafeking attacked one of our forts in force with cannon, Maxims and an armored train, and so persistently that there was fighting right on the walls of the fort. But we have retained our fort. The British loss is reported at 55."

The Circulating Library.

The Standard Circulating Library, at 210 Second avenue, is a well patronized institution. Under the careful management of Mr. W. Harkman the books and various reading matter have been increased, until the fields of science, literature and art, history, biography, fiction, philosophy, geology, and mineralogy have been completely covered. The reading room is becoming a popular resort for those who have the time and inclination to read. Members have the privilege of taking books home to read at pleasure. The terms of the subscription are \$1 per month.

Major Perry Returns.

Police Magistrate Perry is back from an extended trip of three days duration, on which he was accompanied by Judge Dugas, over the various creeks.

In conversation with a Daily Nugget representative and in reference to the Clayson party, Major Perry said that every effort is yet being made by the police to discover the bodies and ferret out the mystery of their disappearance; that the search would have been carried on with as much vigilance had no reward been offered. The men arrested as suspects are being closely held at Tagish where they will be kept until the mystery is wholly cleared up.

AN ECHO FROM NOME.

Why the Cleveland's Stores Were Left at the Beach City.

Food Scarcity Was Feared and Judge Wood of the S.-Y. T. Co. Left the Ship's Grub With the Miners.

Some time ago, reports reached Dawson of a misunderstanding which had occurred in Seattle between Judge Wood of the S. Y. T. Co. and certain persons who had taken passage on the steamship Cleveland from Nome City to Seattle. It seems that the Cleveland, under charter to the S. Y. T. Co., arrived at Nome last October, having aboard considerable cargo and besides her own passengers those of the steamship Laurada, which vessel had been wrecked a few days previously, and her entire cargo last. There were some fears at Nome that there would be a scarcity of provisions during the winter, and when it was learned that the cargo of the Laurada had been lost, such fears became more prevalent among the people, and the prices of all sorts of commodities increased immediately. To make the situation worse, one of the barges on which the Cleveland had loaded a portion of her cargo, broke its anchor chain and was wrecked.

Judge Wood, who was aboard the Cleveland, was strenuously urged to leave at Nome the greater portion of the ship's stores; and in view of the scarcity of winter supplies there he did so, thinking that he would be able to purchase sufficient provisions for the trip back to Seattle at Dutch Harbor. In his particular, Judge Wood was disappointed; no supplies of any consequence could be secured at Dutch Harbor. The trip was continued to Seattle, and the passengers were compelled to subsist on rough fare, such as pork and beans, hash, etc. Arriving at their destination a meeting was held at which, according to the reports received here, the passengers severely censured Judge Wood for leaving Nome without enough provisions. The facts fail to confirm this report.

Mr. C. F. Metcalf, who recently arrived from the outside, was at Nome at the time in question and at the meeting held by the passengers in Seattle afterwards. With reference to the matter, Mr. Metcalf said:

"When it was learned at Nome that the steamship Laurada had been wrecked near St. George's island and her entire cargo lost, the people feared a scarcity of provisions, and the season being late—it was then about October 10th—the prices of supplies greatly advanced. The Cleveland was in port with a small cargo and her manager, Judge Wood, was urged to dispose of it and also to sell the greater portion of the ship's stores. Probably 250 passengers were aboard the Cleveland when she left on October 23d for Seattle. When she reached Dutch Harbor an effort was made to supply her with a variety of food for the rest of the trip, but aside from a small amount of provisions which Judge Wood secured, nothing could be purchased. The voyage was continued to Seattle and the passengers were provided with rough fare. I was present at the meeting held in Seattle. No resolutions were passed which censured Judge Wood for disposing of the ship's stores at Nome for it was realized that it was better to have left the provisions at Nome than to have taken them away, and to have eaten them on the return trip. The meeting, however, did censure the steward and cook of the Cleveland; for it was proven that supplies which were aboard the boat were neither well cooked nor properly served. No blame attaches to Judge Wood, nor none was imputed to him."

Afternoon Whist.

At her beautiful little home on Fourth street, between Second avenue and Third avenue, Mrs. T. Mahoney on

Tuesday gave an afternoon whist complimentary to the ladies who assisted the hostess in her booth, the Palace of Sweets, during the progress of the late bazaar. Four tables were occupied by devotees of the popular game, whist, but it is not stated how many times during the afternoon the question "What are trumps?" was heard. The first prize was won by and awarded to Mrs. F. M. Smith, while the honors incident to the consolation were borne off by Mrs. Roberts. The ladies who do not play whist were charmingly entertained by the hostess during the progress of the game.

Those present who were associated with Mrs. Mahoney in the booth were Mesdames, S. H. Stewart, F. M. Smith, Hostetter, Timmins, Leslie, Bray, Merriman, Jackson, Kelly and Miss Booge. Besides the foregoing co-laborers in the Palace of Sweets were Mesdames Starnes, French, McDonald, Seely, McDunell, Booge, W. J. Stewart, Clayton, Roberts and the Misses De Lobel.

Elegantly prepared and daintily served refreshments were enjoyed by the guests during the afternoon.

The Sunday Concert.

Mr. C. N. Pring will resume the weekly musicales on the next Sunday evening. The Dawson Philharmonic orchestra will render excellent selections, and Miss Beatrice Lorne and Mr. F. W. Zimmerman will assist with the rendition of vocal music.

The program will consist of ten numbers, as follows:

March, "Manhattan Beach".....	Sousa
Gems from opera "Faust".....	Gounod
Miss Beatrice Lorne as Marguerite. Mr. F. W. Zimmerman as Faust.	
"Echoes From Manila Bay".....	Watson
"Stephanie Gavotte".....	Czibulka
Trombone solo, "Cavatine," from "Robert's La Diabla".....	Mr. Martin Hobbs.
Grand selection from the opera "Gasparone".....	Millocker
Song, "Then You Will Remember Me".....	Balt
Medley overture.....	Catlin
Song, "Dear Heart".....	Tito Mattos
Serenade, "Espagnole".....	Metra

This program was to have been rendered on last Sunday evening and Mrs. Leroy Tozier and Mr. Erhardt had been engaged to appear this Sunday; but circumstances compelled the postponement of the entertainment last week, an Mrs. Tozier and Mr. Erhardt will be retained for some future Sunday occasion.

Mr. Fahnestock Will Leave Soon.

Early next week, Mr. Gates D. Fahnestock, general agent of the Empire Transportation Company, and Mr. W. H. Chisholm, one of the local resident agents, will depart for the outside via Skagway. The gentlemen will be provided with a good dog team. Mr. Fahnestock has been in Dawson for some time. Upon reaching the coast, he will proceed to the head office of his company at Seattle, and from there to San Francisco.

When asked respecting the future intentions of the company in the Yukon, the gentleman replied:

"We are satisfied with the country. Our business in the past has been exceptionally good. I do not anticipate a dull summer season, and we shall continue to do business in Dawson.

"The Nome excitement will offer opportunities to steamship companies, and we propose to secure our share of that traffic. All of our big steamships are still in the United States' government service as transports between the Pacific coast and the Philippines, but now most of the soldiers have been returned from Manila, and we expect to have our vessels released in the near future. We shall put two steamships, possibly more, on the route from Seattle to Nome. I may return to Dawson via Nome and St. Michaels, or I may come down the river with the first boats, remain here for a short while and then proceed to Nome. In this respect, I have not determined on any particular plan, and shall be unable to do so, until I confer with my home office. Mr. Chisholm and I expect to make a reasonably quick trip to Skagway."

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