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SIXTEEN PAGES-SATURDAY MORNING DECEMBER 30 1899-SIXTEEN PAGES

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# THE RUSSIAN BOERS ARE FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM

## The Startling Statement Made by General Gourko, a Russian Officer, Who Goes to Take Command of a Boer Army Corps.

**A Report That Matt Steyn, Brother of the Free State President, and 800 Free Staters Have Quit the War—British Casualties to Date—Gen. White Has Fever—Boer Shells Doing Damage.**

A story comes from Lorenzo Marques, dated Dec. 28, that a brother of President Steyn, Matt Steyn, has definitely refused to continue the war. They claim that the President's action in entering into the war against Great Britain was unwarranted, especially as they are running the risk of having their property confiscated.

It is reported that General White, in command at Ladysmith, has fever.

The War Office revised list of British casualties to date is as follows: Officers killed, 68; wounded, 258; missing, 98. Men killed, 888; wounded, 3206; missing, 2223. Total casualties, 6813.

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A despatch from Kimberley, dated Dec. 22, says the result of a British reconnaissance on that day showed that the Boers were still in that vicinity. A number of shells were exchanged and the British lost one horse.

Gen. J. Gourko, son of the famous Russian General Gourko, who is leaving for the Transvaal to fight with the Boers, says that thousands of Russians are now fighting under General Joubert.

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**Joubert Again in Command.**

Ladysmith, Sunday, Dec. 24, via Pretoria. Gen. White has a slight attack of fever, but he is now convalescent. The Boer shells have been very damaging recently. On Friday one shell killed a man and wounded a man. The same missile killed 14 horses. Another just missed the 5th Lancashire Fusiliers, wounding six officers. Several shells have fallen close to Gen. White's house, compelling the removal of headquarters to another point.

It is reported that Gen. Joubert is again in command of the Boers here. The military authorities appear confident, but they are very reticent.

Boers have been observed moving northward and westward in large numbers.

**RUSSIAN HELPING BOERS.**

**A Russian at Marseilles Says Thousands of His Countrymen Are With Joubert.**

London, Dec. 30.—The Marseilles correspondent of The Daily Mail, telegraphing the substance of an interview with the Russian General Gourko, eldest son of the famous General, who is now about starting for Pretoria, says the Russian officer made the following statement: "I have been offered the command of a Boer army corps. In my own mind I am absolutely confident of the success of the Boers. You may take my word for it that thousands of Russians are now fighting under Gen. Joubert."

**DILKE SCENTS DANGER.**

**Britain Will Some Day Have to Fight a Powerful Naval Coalition.**

London, Dec. 30.—Sir Charles Dilke, in The Daily Chronicle this morning discusses Great Britain's relation to Delagoa Bay with regard to the food question. He says: "It would be one of the greatest follies the country could commit to disregard the possibility of a war some day against a powerful naval coalition, in which event it would be to the interest of the United States to fight the British. Great Britain must endure the present conditions, possibly doing damage to the British, but the Portuguese officials and strengthening the British consular staff at Delagoa Bay."

**BRITISH PRISONERS ALL RIGHT.**

**U. S. Consul Hollis Has a Better Story to Tell to His Government.**

Washington, Dec. 29.—The reports that the Boer authorities have threatened to reduce the rations of the British prisoners at Pretoria cause Great Britain stops the war.

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Reviewing the general situation, it is foolish not to recognize that the British are fighting a formidable and terrible war, one of high qualities. The British are increasing in their efficiency, and their Government, although vilely corrupt, devotes its whole energy to military operations. Time is, however, on the British side, and must weaken the Republic, just as the Confederate States in America were weakened through attrition. There is no hurry, but Great Britain must collect overhauling masses of troops. It will be much cheaper in the end to send more troops than necessary.

**70 KILLED, 236 WOUNDED**

**Are the Casualties at Ladysmith Since the Siege of Ladysmith**

Pretoria, Sunday, Dec. 27.—A despatch from Ladysmith, dated Dec. 22, says: The British have mounted another howitzer on Surprise Hill, replacing the gun captured in the sort of the Rifle Brigade. While they watch us nightly with the aid of searchlights, they show no signs of assaulting the town. They probably think they can starve us out, but we have plenty of provisions.

The total casualties since the siege are seventy men killed and 236 wounded.

**THE DUKE'S OFFER ACCEPTED.**

**Marlborough Will Go to South Africa to Fight the Boers as a Captain.**

New York, Dec. 29.—The British War Office has notified the Duke of Marlborough that his offer to serve in South Africa as a captain in the 1st Buffs is accepted.

By direction of the State Department, Mr. Hollis is looking after the British interests, and in particular is seeing that the British prisoners are afforded every proper facility and personal attention. His reports have been very full concerning the care of the prisoners, and went attending circumstances as were warranted. These, however, give no intimation that the rations of the prisoners are to be reduced, but, on the contrary, the entire tenor of the official report goes to show that there need be no apprehension that such a threat would be put into effect.

**800 FREE STATERS QUIT WAR.**

**Even Matt Steyn, the President's Brother, Has Entered a Strong Protest.**

London, Dec. 29.—Despatches from all parts of South Africa emphasize the great enthusiasm among the troops and public occasioned by the new appointments, those of General Roberts and Lord Kitchener. The announcement that the former will have supreme command and that the latter will be chief of staff has largely dispelled the depression in Cape Colony, caused by the recent reverses, while the soldiers' attitude everything from the presence of "Boers" from success in battle to cheaper beer.

**Disaffection Drawn.**

Advices from Cape Town, dated Dec. 24, say an investigation shows that the reported disaffection among the Boers in the Victoria West is overdone.

The farmers, it is pointed out, are mostly land owners and will not risk the loss of their farms and property by joining the Boers.

**Steyn's Brother Quits.**

A despatch from Lorenzo Marques, dated Dec. 28, says a curious story is current emanating from Boer sources, that Matt Steyn, brother of the President of the Orange Free State, and 800 Free Staters have definitely refused to continue the war.

They claim that the President's action in entering into the war against Great Britain was unwarranted, especially as they are running the risk of having their property confiscated.

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**BOMBARDING MAFEKING.**

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**ROAD TO INDWE OPEN.**

General Gatacre Has Apparently Chased Away the Boer Hordes at Stormberg.

Cape Town, Dec. 28.—A despatch from Cape Town, dated Dec. 28, says that the Boers have been very full concerning the care of the prisoners, and went attending circumstances as were warranted. These, however, give no intimation that the rations of the prisoners are to be reduced, but, on the contrary, the entire tenor of the official report goes to show that there need be no apprehension that such a threat would be put into effect.

**The Result Gained.**

London, Dec. 29.—The War Office has received the despatch from Cape Town, dated Dec. 28, saying that the Boers have been very full concerning the care of the prisoners, and went attending circumstances as were warranted. These, however, give no intimation that the rations of the prisoners are to be reduced, but, on the contrary, the entire tenor of the official report goes to show that there need be no apprehension that such a threat would be put into effect.

**Will Command London Regiment.**

London, Dec. 29.—Sir Charles Wood, member of Parliament for the Central division of South-West and London, has been appointed to command the London Regiment.

**Casualties to Date.**

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**This Paper Hates Britain.**

Berlin, Dec. 29.—The Deutsche Nachrichten agency, which is known for its hostile attitude towards Great Britain, has published an article in which it attacks the British Government and its policy in South Africa.

**Price of Wheat Chief Colossal.**

London, Dec. 29.—The price of wheat has risen to a colossal figure, owing to the shortage of supplies in the world.

**American Bells for British.**

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 29.—Thomas C. Ornduff, manufacturer of carriage bells, has received an order from the British Government for 40,000 double hand bell carriage bells.

**No Change in the Situation.**

London, Dec. 29.—A despatch received by the War Department, dated Cape Town, Dec. 28, says that the situation in South Africa is unchanged.

**Colonials With the Boers.**

London, Dec. 30.—The Daily News correspondent writes from Cape Town that a number of colonial troops have joined the Boers.

**Guns Removed From Plymouth.**

London, Dec. 30.—The Daily News correspondent writes from Plymouth that the guns removed from the forts at Plymouth have been sent to Cape Town.

**Boer Reports of Skirmishes.**

Ladysmith, Dec. 29.—The Boers report that they have had several skirmishes with the British.

**Kaffirs and Burgers in Conflict.**

Ladysmith, Dec. 29.—The Boers report that there has been a conflict between Kaffirs and Burgers.

**Lively Brush With the Mafeking Garrison.**

Pretoria, Dec. 28, Tuesday, by way of Lorenzo Marques, Thursday, Dec. 28.—Commandant Swart reports from the laager at Mafeking that there has been a lively brush with the Mafeking garrison.

**Allowing Kop (near Zwartkops) that he had an engagement on Friday, Dec. 22, with the Boers.**

The Kaffirs occupied a strongly fortified ridge, and were well prepared for emergency fighting. The Burgers captured the Kaffir position, losing three killed and five wounded.

**Commandant Swart Made an Attack.**

From Mafeking. On Monday morning the commandant Swart made an attack on the Boers, but was repulsed.

**Edwards and Hart-Smith, Chartered Accountants Bank of Ontario Bank.**

Edwards and Hart-Smith, Chartered Accountants Bank of Ontario Bank, 100 King St. W., Toronto.

**Cook's Turkish Baths and Russian Baths.**

Cook's Turkish Baths and Russian Baths, 202 and 204 King St. W., Toronto.

**Money to Loan.**

Owners of certain residence or business properties may obtain loans on favorable terms at lowest current rates by making personal application to J. L. Trivett, Ontario Mutual Life Insurance Company, 50 Adelaide Street East, Toronto.

**W. H. Stone, Undertaker, 843 Yonge Street.**

**French Coast Defences.**

Government Will Submit a Bill Next Month to Provide for an Increase of the Fleet.

**IT WILL TAKE 120,000,000 FRANCES**

**To Provide for Proper Defence of the Coast and Colonies—More Ironclads to Be Built.**

Paris, Dec. 29.—The Government will submit to the Chamber of Deputies at the end of the month a bill providing for the defence of the French coast and colonies, and to increase the strength of the fleet.

This does not involve an increase in the number of ships, but a change in the type of ships, and a change in the armament.

The bill provides for the construction of 12 ironclads, and for the purchase of 120,000,000 francs worth of ironclads.

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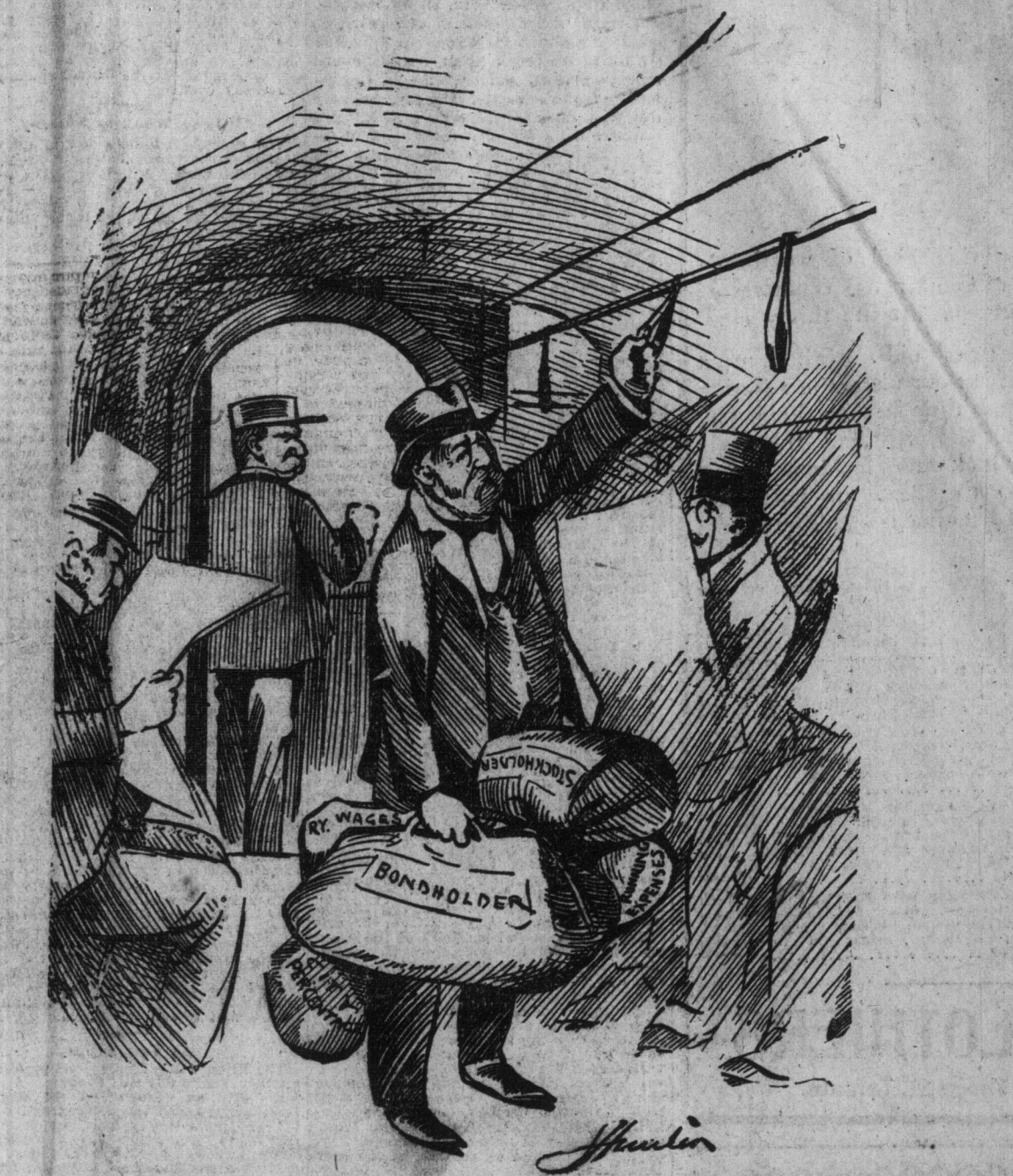
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GETTING PRETTY TIRED.



STRAP-HOLDER: It's bad enough to have to carry this burden without having to stand up.

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