



Library Legislative Assembly

## WAR NEWS IN BRIEF.

### The Philippine Rebels Keep at It and Kill a Few Yankees Every Day.

### MORE TROUBLE IN EGYPT.

### Thirty Thousand Dervishes Said to be Marching on Omdurman—Other Telegraphic News of the Past Week.

Manila, Feb. 25.—The enemy apparently realizes the hopelessness of attacking the Americans' position, and is occupied chiefly by occasional sharp shooting from jungles, whenever feasible. Fortunately ignorance of the use of sights minimizes the effects of their tactics. The retirement of General King's advance posts upon San Pedro Macati has evidently been construed by the rebels as a sign of weakness, as they have pressed forward along both sides of the river, persistently harassing the occupants of the town. General King's headquarters in the centre of the town was a target for scores of Remington and Mauser bullets. The rebels are using smokeless powder and it is extremely difficult to locate individual marksmen.

The enemy's sharpshooters have been particularly active about Calococan lately. Special attention is paid to the three gun battery near the railroad and the improvement in the rebel marksmanship is very noticeable. The rebels fire volleys at the battery, their bullets frequently skimming the tops of the sand bags. A lieutenant of the 20th Kansas volunteers and three of the men were slightly wounded and a man was killed in the trenches. The rebel battery has not been used since a shell from the United States double-turreted Monadnock exploded over it. A few small fires have destroyed native shacks in various parts of the city. The enemy's fire was so hot in the vicinity of the Higgins House that headquarters were removed to a church four hundred yards inside the lines.

Manila, Feb. 26.—The enemy is commencing worrying tactics at various parts of the American line, apparently with the purpose of withdrawing attention from affairs inside the city. An attempt was made to rush through our extreme left, near Calococan, but it was promptly checked by a hot and effective musketry and artillery fire. In the meantime, small bodies of rebels, evidently some of those engaged in last night's cowardly work at Tondo, spread out between the city and the outposts. Every available man was sent to drive them away, with the result that there was a desultory firing all morning. From 8 to 10:30 a. m. the United States double-turreted monitor Monadnock joined in the engagement, hurling ten-inch shells over the American lines into bodies of the enemy as indicated by the signal corps. So far the American casualties are one man killed and ten wounded.

At 11 o'clock there were sharp engagements at the Chinese cemetery and at San Pedro Macati, also simultaneously, but the artillery fire from both positions drove the enemy back. From the high towers of the city fires can be seen burning at a dozen different points outside. Some of these are probably due to the Monadnock's shells. It is currently reported that the natives have threatened to bury Escalata and the walled city to-night. Scores of rebels have been arrested in the Tondo district. One band of sixty rebels having two carloads of arms and accoutrements were captured in a house. Business is practically suspended for a time.

Immense damage has been done by fires, which it is believed have been started by the insurgents. The fire department has experienced great difficulty in fighting the flames, owing to defective apparatus. It is reported that the natives damaged the apparatus. There was some fighting in the streets during the night, but the Americans quickly quelled the uprising. A number of insurgents were killed and several American soldiers wounded. The large market place was among the first to burn, between 600 and 700 residences and business houses being also destroyed. The fires started at sev-

eral points simultaneously and spread with great rapidity in spite of all efforts to control them. Hundreds of homeless natives are huddled in the streets, making the patrol duty of the Americans difficult.

Washington, Feb. 27.—General Otis cabled the war department as follows: On the nights of the 21st and 22d and the morning of the 23d the insurgent troops gained access to the outskirts of the city behind our lines. Many are hiding and about 1,000 have entrenched themselves. They were completely routed on the 23d with a loss in killed and wounded of about 500 and 200 prisoners. Our loss was very slight.

Every report that comes to the war department goes to convince the officials that an offensive campaign must be immediately assumed in the Philippines. This is no longer a matter of choice, but of necessity, against which, the officials say, sentimental considerations cannot stand. In their opinion the lives and health of the United States troops now in the neighborhood of Manila depend upon the initiation of such a campaign. The war department has arranged to despatch further reinforcements to General Otis at Manila. These are the Ninth infantry, now in New York, and the Sixth infantry in San Antonio. The Texas leaves San Francisco about March 15th, and by that time General Otis will have received all the reinforcements now afloat and bound for Manila, save those on the Sheridan, which sailed from New York last Sunday. This gives him six thousand more troops, made up of the flower of the United States army.

Manila, Feb. 28.—The shooting of two Englishmen and Mr. Argentine, manager of the Andrew's cotton mill, at Tondo, on Wednesday, is generally regretted, but it is admitted that this was quite unavoidable. Instead of remaining in the stone basement during the excitement occasioned by the fires in the vicinity, the trio leaned from the upper windows. Their white suits attracted the attention of the American soldiers, who, believing them to be natives firing from the windows, shot all three. Mr. Argentine is dead, Mr. C. F. Simpson is fatally wounded and Mr. T. Haslem slightly wounded.

Colombo, Island of Ceylon, Mar. 1.—The United States transport Grant, which sailed from New York for Manila on January 19th, with troops under command of Major-General Henry W. Lawton on board, arrived here to-day. General Lawton received a cablegram from Major-General Otis, in charge of the United States military forces in the Philippines, saying: "Situation critical; your early arrival necessary." He also received from General Corbin, United States adjutant-general, a cable dispatch urging him to hurry. General Lawton ordered his officers to buy supplies regardless of expense, and the transport is taking on coal and water hurriedly. She will try to reach Manila without further stop.

Manila, March 1.—All is quiet this afternoon inside and outside of Manila, except near Calococan, where the enemy's sharpshooters continue to annoy the troops at a comparatively short range. One man of the Twentieth Kansas volunteers was killed in Arquina village, which was burned, and four were wounded in the skirmish, one of the Iowa, one of the Minnesota and two of the Pennsylvania regiments.

### DERVISHES ARE UP.

### Twenty Thousand Savages Marching on Omdurman.

Cairo, Feb. 27.—The khalifa has left Sher Keila and is moving northwards with a considerable force. He has been fiercely raiding the Arabs along the route he is following, and the latter have become panic-stricken. Major Macdonald, the head of the British expedition which has been exploring East Africa, has started for Omdurman, and Major-General Hunter, the recently appointed governor of Omdurman, and other British officers on furlough, have been recalled.

London, Feb. 27.—The Daily News publishes the following despatch from Cairo: The khalifa is advancing upon Omdurman with between 15,000 and 20,000 men. Preparations are urgently proceeding to meet him.

A foot-note to the despatch says: The facts are that General Kitchener's scouts came in touch with the khalifa, strongly entrenched with 16,000 men and the British officer, having only a small force, found it necessary to retire to Omdurman.

The retirement the khalifa regarded as a sign of weakness, and it led him to rally his forces to the advance. Lord Kitchener has 9,000 men at Omdurman.

Replying to a question by Mr. Labouchere in the house of commons, Mr. Geo. Wyndham, parliamentary secretary to the war office, said that General Kitchener's officers reported that 1,000 dervishes had been killed at Omdurman, and 16,000 wounded, besides the 400 killed in taking the town. No official returns existed, he said, of the number treated in the hospitals.

London, Feb. 28.—The news that the khalifa is gathering a host, varying in number from 15,000 to 30,000 men and is marching on Khartoum came with a rude shock to the people of Great Britain, who were under the impression that he was almost a solitary wanderer in the desert. Official circles, however, express satisfaction at the fact that the khalifa is apparently determined to make another onslaught on the Anglo-Egyptian forces, as they are confident that he will be easily defeated. Major Archibald Hunter, the governor of Omdurman, is quoted as saying in an interview: "I regard the khalifa as a nuisance. He is no longer dangerous and it will greatly simplify matters if he comes out and fights." In the meantime detachments of British troops have been ordered to get ready to return to Omdurman from lower Egypt and a strong expedition will be formed and advanced to meet the khalifa.

### THE MUSCAT INCIDENT.

### The British Ships Had Cleared for Action and Prepared to Bombard the Town.

Bombay, Feb. 27.—Important details regarding the action of the British authorities at Muscat, the capital of the sultanate of Oman, have just become public. It appears that the news of the lease by the Sultan of Oman of a coaling station to France, on the coast of Oman, leaked out while the British political agent at Muscat, Major Fagan, was absent. He promptly returned to his post, but the sultan refused to furnish him with any information. The commander of the British gunboat Sphinx thereupon dispatched a lieutenant and an armed party to Bandar-Josih. But the sultan, hoping to receive aid from the French, continued to be recalcitrant. The arrival of the second-class cruiser Eclipse, the flagship of the East Indies station, with Rear Admiral Edmund C. Drummond on board, threw the sultan's subjects into a panic, though the sultan himself still remained obdurate. During the morning of Feb. 16th Admiral Drummond sent word that unless the sultan attended on board the Eclipse at two o'clock that afternoon he would bombard the forts at 2:20 p. m. Notice of the admiral's intention was sent to the foreign consuls, and the town was speedily in confusion. The advisors of the sultan entreated him to submit, and the Eclipse took up a position broadside of the town, while the other British ships cleared for action. The sultan thereupon posted a notification at the customs house and on the gates of the town that the agreement with France was cancelled. At noon the sultan sent his brother on board the Eclipse, but the British admiral refused to receive him as a substitute. Just before two o'clock the sultan of Oman, almost unattended, arrived on board the flagship and remained there for three hours, while the whole population lined the beach and anxiously awaited the outcome. The sultan, it appears, completely acquiesced to the British demands and handed over to Admiral Drummond the treaty with France. On the following day the admiral went to the palace, where great "darbar" was held, and the sultan publicly repudiated his agreement with France.

### STRIKE AT NANAIMO.

### The Works Closed Down Owing to a Refusal for Higher Wages.

Vancouver, Feb. 28.—There is a strike at the Nanaimo coal mines. When a morning shift went to work at Alexandra mines, the pushers made application for higher wages, and not receiving what they deemed a satisfactory reply, they left the mines. This caused the closing down of the mines, as the miners and other employees could not operate without the pushers.

A few days ago two children were killed by wolves near Crookston, Minn.

## NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

### The Provincial Legislature Prorogued. Over a Hundred Bills Passed.

### FATAL SHOOTING AFFAIR.

### R. W. Jameson, M.P., of Winnipeg, While Handling a Revolver, is Instantly Killed—Running Rights Wanted.

Victoria, Feb. 26.—In the House yesterday the anti-Chinese resolution that the Dominion Government be asked to increase the per capita tax to \$500 was carried by a large majority.

Victoria, Feb. 28.—The first session of the eighth parliament of the British Columbia Legislature prorogued yesterday. His Honour Lieut.-Governor McInnes gave his assent to 101 bills which were passed during the session. Last year the session did not end until May 20th, commencing February 10th, as against January 5th this year, so that public business is practically two months ahead of last year. There has been but one all-night sitting during the session. Probably the most important legislation has been the repeal of the subsidies granted the previous session to the V. V. & Teslin Coast railway, Mackenzie & Mann, and the change of the financial system, under which, in addition to raising money by 2 per cent. inscribed stock, internal debentures may be issued for small amounts.

Victoria, Feb. 28.—Hon. David Mills, Minister of Justice, in a letter concerning the redistribution of seats for British Columbia, says: "I am not well informed as to the divisions of British Columbia. It is the intention of the Government to avoid, in the redistribution of seats, the breaking up of county boundaries and give to each county, as near as a regard to this principle will permit, the representation to which it is entitled. I shall be greatly obliged if the Liberal association will give me some idea of what redistribution they think may be made in accordance with the principle which I have stated, that of preserving county boundaries intact."

### R. W. JAMESON, M. P.,

### Instantly Killed While Handling a Revolver at His Home.

Winnipeg Free Press. Mr. R. W. Jameson, M. P. for the City of Winnipeg, accidentally shot himself dead at his home, McDermott avenue, last evening, about 8 o'clock.

The particulars of the lamentable occurrence as learned by Free Press reporters last night are very sad. It appears that Mr. Jameson had gone home from a meeting of the board of trade between six and seven o'clock and had dinner with his family. After dinner he went to his room where he read a paper and smoked a cigar. He then went to the kitchen and talked with Mrs. Jameson. The conversation, in some way, turned to the subject of fire arms, and Mr. Jameson remarked that he had one, at the same time taking a self-cocking revolver from his pocket. He began examining the weapon, and while doing so said to his wife, "How easy it would be to take one's own life," and lifted the weapon to his mouth. Mrs. Jameson was not looking just at that moment, but she heard a report, and as she turned around her husband fell and expired instantly, the bullet having passed through the neck and shattered the spine. Doctors were immediately summoned, but all life was extinct when they arrived. Dr. Benson, coroner, was then called and put in possession of the circumstances.

It appears that at the moment the revolver exploded Mrs. Jameson was engaged in putting some wood into a stove in the room. Hearing the report, she turned around and was horrified to see him staggering and on the point of falling. She sprang to his side just as he sank to the floor; she exclaimed, "Oh, William, what has happened." He did not reply and probably by that time life was extinct. Completely unnerved, she ran into the next house where her mother, Mrs. Thurman, lived, and gave the alarm.

Anxious friends were soon surrounding the prostrate body, but the time for human aid was past.

Mr. Jameson owned a revolver, with which he was very fond of practising when out on holiday excursions. What prompted him to take it up last evening will never be known. He was in his usual cheerful frame of mind and had not complained of any business troubles, and no one had the slightest reason to think that such a terrible event was about to happen. Mr. Jameson was not a strong-nerved man, and it is thought that in turning the revolver towards his mouth he accidentally pulled the trigger.

Mrs. Jameson, speaking of the death of her husband, said he came home from the afternoon meeting in good spirits, and in the course of a hearty dinner made some pleasant comments on the meal, and on rising from it said he would go upstairs and read his paper while enjoying a cigar. He came downstairs very shortly afterwards, and just what happened, or the exact words he used, Mrs. Jameson does not distinctly remember, but he said something about fire arms, how dangerous they were, and how easy it would be for one to take his own life; and then came the report of the shot, which was almost instantly fatal. She did not know of any possible reason that could prompt him to take his life. He said, however, that he had been at an exciting meeting in the afternoon.

There are no marks of violence on the face, showing that the revolver must have been close to the mouth when discharged. The features are very natural, and looked as though the deceased was peacefully sleeping.

### RUNNING RIGHTS WANTED.

### The Bedlington & Nelson Railway Company Make Application.

Ottawa, Feb. 25.—The Railway Committee has considered the application of the Bedlington & Nelson Railway Company for running rights over twelve miles of the Crow's Nest Railway, between Kootenay lake and King creek.

The Bedlington & Nelson is the road chartered by the British Columbia Legislature to connect Kootenay lake with Bonners Ferry, Montana, where it joins the Great Northern.

Parliament in 1897 voted the C. P. R. \$11,000 a mile for the Crow's Nest road, on condition that running rights were granted to other lines. Application was urged on the ground that the difficulties of construction were so great that excessive expenditure would be involved.

Judge Clark, while admitting the jurisdiction of the committee, denied the validity of the reasons advanced by the Bedlington & Nelson people. Hearing was deferred until facts as to the physical features of the country are ascertained. The committee is favorably disposed towards the application.

### A LIBERAL VICTORY.

### R. H. Holmes Secures a Net Majority of 118 in West Huron.

The result of the campaign in West Huron, Ont., has resulted in a victory for R. H. Holmes, the Liberal candidate, his majority being 118. According to the unverified figures Mr. Holmes carried every township, except Godrich township. This constituency is famous as being one where some of the hardest fought campaigns in the history of Canadian politics have taken place. With the exception of the years 1887 and 1892 it has always been in the Liberal list since 1882. The late Lieutenant-Governor Cameron, of the Northwest Territories, was elected four times to represent the constituency, and conducted many active campaigns. The present lieutenant-governor of this province, Hon. J. C. Patterson, was first returned to the House of Commons in 1892 from this constituency, during a bye-election after the unseating of Mr. M. C. Cameron, and when Mr. Patterson had been appointed minister of militia in the Thompson cabinet. The majorities of the successful candidates during the past seventeen years were as follows:

In 1882, M. C. Cameron, 29; 1887, Porter, Conservative, 27; 1891, M. C. Cameron, 379; 1896, M. C. Cameron, 317; 1899, R. H. Holmes, Liberal, 118. The vote at the 1896 election was as follows: M. C. Cameron, Liberal, 1,837; R. McLean, Conservative, 1,520; G. M. Kilty, Independent, 725.