

LIVERPOOLS WERE CAPTURED

Boers Took British Post at Helvetia and Made Two Hundred of the Garrison Prisoners.

THIRTY-THREE KILLED AND WOUNDED

Burgers in Cape Colony Are Evidently Waiting for Reinforcements From the North—Dewet's Force Held in Check.

(Associated Press.)
London, Dec. 31.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Kitchener:
"Pretoria, Dec. 30th, 7.50 a. m.—General Lyttleton reports that our post at Helvetia was captured yesterday morning by the Boers. About 50 were killed and wounded, and 200 taken prisoners."

Lord Kitchener reports that he is following with a small force in the track of the enemy, Helvetia being re-occupied by forces who have been reinforced from Belfast.

Helvetia was a strong position on the Machadodorp Lydenburg railway, and was held by a detachment of the Liverpool regiment.

"I am asking for further information," wires Lord Kitchener.

According to further telegrams received yesterday, Zerst is practically besieged, but has provisions sufficient for five months.

The garrison at Ottoshoop, has been withdrawn to Lydenburg.

A dispatch from Carnarvon, dated yesterday, reports that the point were driven off, and are being pursued.

"It is evident," says a belated dispatch from Krugersdorp, dated December 23rd, "that the Boer commissariat in the direction of Magalesberg is well supplied, and that until the country between here and Magalesberg is properly cleared of Boers, they will continue to concentrate there, the ground being particularly adapted to their methods of warfare."

The Boers admit that in their fight with General Clements at Nootgedacht they lost 130 men.

Lord Kitchener wiring from Pretoria on Saturday, December 29th, says:
"There is not much change in the situation in Cape Colony."

"The eastern force of the enemy appears to have been broken up into small parties at Utrecht, and to be moving about rapidly into the same district, evidently waiting for support from the North."

"The last report states that the western force is moving to Carnarvon and De Lisle and Thorneycroft are in close pursuit."

"French has occupied Ventersdorp. Clements reports that he is opposed on the road to Rustenburg."

"The eastern line was blown up near Pan and a train was held up this morning on the Standerton line near Vaal station. White's column has arrived at Senekal."

"Knox's column and Boyce's brigade are holding Dewet from breaking south."

Commenting upon the Helvetia incident, the Daily Mail calls upon the government to send out at least 50,000 additional mounted men.

Surprised at Dawn.
London, Dec. 31.—Gen. Kitchener, telegraphing from Pretoria, Sunday, December 30th, says:
"The post at Helvetia was surprised at 2.30 a. m., the enemy first rushing at 4.7 p. m."

"At dawn the officer commanding the post at Swartz kopje sent out a patrol and shelled the enemy out of Helvetia, making them abandon the gun temporarily. The Boers, however, formed our prisoners around the gun and got it away eventually. No ammunition belonging to the gun was captured."

"The casualties were four officers wounded, 11 men killed and 22 wounded."

"A column was sent out from Machadodorp but owing to the bad roads it failed to arrive in time."

Services Declined.
London, Dec. 31.—Mr. Chamberlain, according to a dispatch from Wellington, N. Z., has declined the services of Maoris for South Africa.

Recruits for Baden-Powell.
Ottawa, Dec. 31.—A gratuity of five months' pay, amounting to £40, has been given by the war office to Lieut. Mason, of the first contingent, who was wounded at Paardeberg.

to show that the British are regaining the ground recently lost.

A dispatch from Standerton, dated December 28th, says it is estimated that 2,000 Boers were engaged in the operations in North Natal, hoping to break the British line of communication. This plan failed, and the Boers were driven off in each case with more or less loss, their casualties in the process of the day numbering 50, while the British casualties were slight.

According to a Johannesburg dispatch of Friday's date, Gen. French occupied Ventersdorp that day without opposition. This place being a great telegraphic centre, has been much used by the Boers for the dissemination of information.

The possession of Ventersdorp, Richtersburg and Zerst gives the British a strong hold upon this part of the country.

From Carnarvon, under yesterday's date, comes a dispatch saying that the Boers occupied Vossburg on December 27th, in force, and were reported to be moving on Carnarvon, where martial law has been proclaimed. The farmers have assured the authorities that they will remain loyal and will suppress disloyal talk.

It is creditably reported, according to a dispatch from Newcastle, dated December 29th, that Louis Botha has informed Commandant Spruit that Kruger has sent word that the burghers must lay down their arms of continue fighting on their own account, as no support from Europe can be expected.

Almost Isolated.
Cradock, Cape Colony, Friday, Dec. 27.—Kimberley is almost isolated by Boer raiders. No mail had reached there from December 19th to December 25th. Provisions are at famine prices. The military took charge of all the food stuff on December 22nd.

The Leinster regiment, commanded by Major Barry, had a skirmish lasting four hours with the Boers at Orientfontein, on December 27th, suffering slight losses. The Boers at Cradock are in a convoy of 25 wagons on Christmas Eve.

Statement by Colville.
London, Dec. 29.—Major-General Sir Henry Colville, whose resignation has been demanded by the war office, but who refused to resign and came to England from Gibraltar, arriving at Plymouth a day to demand a trial by court martial, to establish the responsibility for the Yeomanry disaster at Lindley last May, has made a counter strike at the war office in a three thousand word statement, which he has given to the press.

He says he has come home to demand a free inquiry and does not intend to be made a scapegoat for the sins of the staff. He avers that the Lindley disaster could never have happened had he been informed of Lord Roberts's intentions. The primary cause of the disaster, he says, was the insufficient information given by the headquarters staff to Scott, Spragg and himself, and he declines to accept the blame. He lays out the facts and blames others.

Gen. Colville and his influential friends in and out of the army are thus beginning a campaign against the new secretary of state for war, Mr. William St. John Broderick, Lord Roberts and Gen. Kitchener. It is said it is to be fought out with some severity in parliament.

When he returned from South Africa, Gen. Colville says he fully acquainted the war office with the facts. After some time he was informed by Gen. Evelyn Wood, the adjutant-general, that Lord Lansdowne, then secretary of state for war, had directed him to say that Gen. Lord Wolseley, the commander-in-chief, has approved Gen. Colville's resigning his Gibraltar command. He learned incidentally that an army board of five of the highest officials of the war office had considered his statements and Lord Roberts's disapproves on the subject. His resignation was the result of the inquiry. To his intense surprise, Adjutant-General Wood, on December 21st, notified him that Mr. William St. John Broderick, the newly-appointed secretary of state for war, held him responsible for the loss of the Yeomanry, and ordered him to quit his command immediately, and hand over his resignation.

Gen. Colville, going into official details, says he was ordered to concentrate his division at Hellbroon on May 20th, and names the various dispositions of the other divisions, which extended across the Orange River Colony. He assumed that Lord Roberts intended to advance, sweeping all before him. His orders were absolute, and he had to carry them out. Hence he could not go to the relief of the 500 Yeomanry without risking the success of the grand operation. Under any circumstances, he says, he considered it his duty to push on, even if he were sure it would entail the loss of the Yeomanry. Besides, he had only food enough for two days. He pushed on, and the Yeomanry surrendered.

Lord Roberts broke up Gen. Colville's division and expressed his dissatisfaction.

"On my pointing out that I had obeyed his orders to the letter," declares Gen. Colville, "he said his orders were only intended as a guide."

Gen. Colville alludes to some of the Yeomanry being millionaires, and quotes

Lord Roberts as saying it was his duty to sacrifice his force for the Yeomanry. "We will remember," Gen. Colville says, "that the corps of the elite numbered 500 and my force nearly eight times that number."

en. Colville recites two examples of what he considers Lord Kitchener's "defective staff work."

THE BOYS AT VANCOUVER.
Private Smethurst's New Year Greeting to People of Victoria.

(Special to the Times.)
Vancouver, Dec. 31.—"Tell them we are more than satisfied with our treatment all through. Our welcome in Vancouver has been as warm as if we were one of yourselves. The British Columbia men have all through been as one family. It was share alike all round; yet we are impatient to see the folks at home in Victoria."

This is the message of New Year's greeting given by Pte. Smethurst, one of the Victoria boys returning from South African service, for the good people of the capital.

The British Columbia men of the first contingent arrived here this afternoon and were given the most demonstrative welcome ever seen in the city.

The returning men were: F. D. Laferty, lieutenant, R.C.A., in command, H. Smethurst, W. H. Brethour, and C. Leow, privates.

Kwang Hsu's Successor

Empress Dowager Reported to Have Appointed a New Emperor, Tung Hsu.

Former Occupant of the Throne Intends Returning to the Capital.

London, Dec. 28.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Standard wires: "Private advices from the province of Shan Si say, that while the court was sojourning at Tai Yuen Fu, the Empress Dowager secretly appointed a new Emperor, with the title of Tung Hsu. He is a 15-year-old boy, who was taken to Sian Fu in the imperial yellow chair. This explains the permission given to Emperor Kwang to return to Peking."

"Emperor Kwang Hsu has notified the reform party that he is returning to the capital and will need their assistance."

Reinforcing Expedition.
Berlin, Dec. 28.—An official denial has been issued here of the report from Peking published in a New York newspaper that differences have arisen between Field Marshal Count von Waldersee and Dr. Mumm von Scharzstein, the German minister at Peking, over a question of procedure.

The war office has received the following dispatch from Count von Waldersee: "Peking, Dec. 28.—A column commanded by Major von Madai will start tomorrow for Shan Ho Hsien to co-operate with the Grucher expedition which left Tien Tsin on December 10th for Yuen Tsiu. A United States detachment will leave Peking tomorrow via Hsing Ho Hsien with the same object. The Chinese who were defeated by the French on December 22nd fled in a southerly direction."

Terms Considered Harsh.
Washington, Dec. 28.—The Chinese embassy here is without information on the report that Emperor Kwang Hsu does not approve the demands submitted by the powers. For some days, however, the view has prevailed in Chinese quarters that the terms were so harsh that it would be difficult to secure their acceptance. The state department had received nothing from Mr. Conger to indicate that the Emperor opposed the acceptance of the peace terms and the officials continue to be hopeful that there will be an early acquiescence.

Italy's Policy.
Rome, Dec. 28.—In the Italian senate to-day, the minister of foreign affairs, Marquis Visconti, replying to Marquis Vitelleschi during the discussion of the foreign affairs budget, said: "We cannot leave to others the task of safeguarding Italy's interest in China. Italy will continue in loyal and moderate collaboration to assure the same indemnification and guarantees that are obtained by the other powers."

London, Dec. 31.—Writing to the Times from Peking yesterday, Dr. Morrison says: "The Chinese have accepted all the conditions of the joint note. They are sending formal acceptance by an envoy and ask that negotiations should commence forthwith and military operations cease."

"Li Hung Chang is much better, although much shaken."

"Five expeditions are now operating. Every report tells of increasing unrest. The policy of depriving the Chinese of all power to exercise authority is spreading disorder broadcast and forcing peaceful Chinese into opposition."

In a dispatch dated December 28th, Dr. Morrison sends a long protest against German harshness, which, he says, is creating, instead of checking, disorder. He accuses the Germans of harrasing the country and punishing the innocent and the guilty indiscriminately, in order to levy fines for defraying their own military expenses, and to form an excuse for continuing hostile occupation.

He also charges Count von Waldersee

with a breach of faith, on the ground that he gave Li Hung Chang a map designating the area of the occupation in the province of Chi Li, and indicated the district beyond which the allies would not operate, and yet allowed the German troops to inflict severe punishment upon the Chinese at the Sang Chau and Yung Ching, both of which are outside the area.

Repeating the statement that the Germans are preparing for an expedition to Sien Fu in the spring, and also mentioning trouble in the Yang Tse valley, Dr. Morrison says: "The question arises whether the occasion should not be seized to separate the British troops from Count von Waldersee's command."

Chinese Scattered.
Berlin, Dec. 31.—Count von Waldersee reports to the war office, under the date of Peking, December 20th: "The Chinese, who fled south, were pursued by a squadron of Kien 100 kilometres southwest of Peking, where the Chinese scattered. Grucher's column seized a great quantity of ammunition, quick-firing and Krupp guns, Maxim rifles, etc., at Nan Chen, 21 kilometres east of Pao Ti Sien, which had been abandoned by the fleeing Chinese."

Starved to Death.
New York, Dec. 31.—The American Bible Society has received a report from the Rev. John B. Hykes, its agent in China, dated Shanghai, November 27th, in which he says that the missionaries who are safe in Tai Yuen Fu are Graham McKie, Miss Chapman, Miss Way, Mrs. Ogren and child. Mr. Ogren was massacred.

Duncan Kay, his wife and child escaped to the mountains from their station at Ku Wu Sian. An anti-Christian kept them supplied with food until he was discovered by the Boxers and killed. After his death his widow nobly tried to save the lives of the missionaries by smuggling food to them, but the Boxers found out what she was doing and murdered her. Then they placed guards at the entrance to the gorge where the Kays were concealed, and so effectually did they prevent all communication with them that they entreated for their food supplies, all three of them starving to death.

Worst Gale For Years
Irreparable Vessels Have Been Driven Ashore to Coast of England
Many Lives Lost, But So Few Particulars Are to Hand

London, Dec. 28.—Reports of shipping casualties already to hand show that the gale was one of the worst known in many years. Probably several days will elapse before the full extent of the damage becomes known. In addition to some vessels, not yet identified, which have been wrecked or placed in great danger, the fate of some of the cross channel mail steamers is in doubt.

For instance, the Great Western Railway Company's steamer plying between Milford and Waterford is twelve hours overdue and no tidings of her have yet been received. It would be impossible to enumerate all the minor casualties.

In response to rockets from Eddystone Light, Plymouth sent a dory with a lifeboat to assist what was reported to be a large steamer in distress in the channel. The endangered vessel is the Mercury, last reported arrived at Bilbao Bay on November 29th, from Bonlogne, which had sought shelter in Portland roads. It is believed that the crew can be saved.

A terrible accident took place near Taunton; the breakwater at Watchet harbor yielded to the force of the gale and became a wreck, permitting a tremendous sea to have full play against the shipping in the harbor. Several vessels broke adrift, two foundered and five others were driven into a hopeless tangle in a corner between a pier and a wharf, where they lay grinding each other, and the gale both on land and sea, but everywhere the telegraph wires are much disorganized and reports are therefore incomplete.

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Give the little ones Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Peleto's when a laxative is needed. They're easy to take and don't

Fiendish Outrage

United States Soldier Skinned Alive by Natives of the Philippines.

They Are More Daring Than Ever and Recently Carried Off Sixteen Men.

(Associated Press.)
West Superior, Wis., Dec. 31.—In a letter written from the Philippines just before the recent election, to his relatives in this city, Captain Harry W. Newton said that at that time the encroachments of the natives were worse than they had been at any time during the year previous.

As one instance of their ferocity he writes: "Just the other day they jumped a detachment of our 24th numbering 22 men, and captured 16 of them. One of them was found terribly mutilated, showing signs of being skinned while yet alive."

CANADIAN BRIEFS.
Found Dead in Bed—Speaker of the Senate—Town Partially Destroyed by Fire.

(Associated Press.)
Toronto, Dec. 31.—A. Jardine, president of the Pure Gold Manufacturing Co., was found dead in bed yesterday morning. Heart disease was the cause of death. He was 63 years old.

Rev. Mr. Potts says the prospects are that the Methodist Century Fund will exceed the million dollar mark.

Mayor Macdonald, Alderman Spence, ex-Mayor John Shaw, C. Woodley and O. A. Howland were nominated for mayor to-day.

Montreal, Dec. 31.—Lt.-Col. Peters, formerly D.O.C. Victoria, and for the past year D. Q. C. Toronto, replacing Col. Otter, is to assume the duties as D. C. C. of Montreal district on January 3rd, vice Lt.-Col. Roy, who is to devote his whole attention to District No. 6, St. Johns, Que.

Halifax, Dec. 31.—It is understood here that Senator Power has been definitely chosen as Speaker of the Senate in succession to Sir, A. P. Pelletier.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—There is talk of this year's council for having voted to authorize an expenditure greater than what is allowed by the municipal act.

The Canadian Patriotic Fund now amounts to \$230,653.

Kilgobbin, Dec. 31.—Pete, the Napanee bank robber, is said to have killed \$20,000 of railway stock to his sister prior to being operated upon a few days ago. He is said to have held \$20,000 in bonds.

Windsor, Dec. 31.—The efforts of M. K. Cowan, the Dominion government has forced the United Gas Co. of Detroit, to supply Canadian principal gas houses with their product.

Weston, Dec. 31.—The principal fire of the town was destroyed by a fire last night, the origin was unknown. The loss is estimated at \$100,000; insurance unknown.

THE KIDNAPPERS.
Threatens to Carry Off Another of Mr. Cudaby's Children.

(Associated Press.)
Omaha, Neb., Dec. 31.—A. Cudaby, the millionaire, has received a second communication from whoever kidnaped his son. It contains a threat and says, in substance, that unless he withdraws his offer of \$25,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of each of the three bandits, they will kidnap another of his children. Mr. Cudaby's house was called up by telephone on Thursday morning and advised to get a letter in the front yard. The message contained the above information. Mr. Cudaby says the reward offered stands as originally announced.

MIDNIGHT SERVICES.
Will Be Held in St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

(Associated Press.)
New York, Dec. 31.—The close of the year will be celebrated in London to-night by special services at St. Paul's cathedral, says the Tribune's correspondent. Canon Gore will be the preacher at the abbey, which is always crowded when he is in the pulpit. There will be the 20th century service to-morrow at Canterbury and St. Paul's, with Archbishop Temple, Bishop Carpenter, Dean Farrar and Dean Elcote as preachers, and "The Messiah" will be sung at Albert hall.

The old century will be danced out and the new century danced in at Covent Garden in fancy dress.

GUTTED BY FIRE.
(Associated Press.)
Chicago, Dec. 31.—A fire early to-day destroyed the plant of the Bellini Stamping Co., at Harvey, Ill., a manufacturing suburb of this city. The loss is estimated at \$400,000; insurance about \$375,000.

The juice of the tomato is efficacious in removing ink stains.

Do You Want To Sell
All or part of your farm? If so, list your property with me. I am making a specialty of farming lands, and at the present time can dispose of your property if prices are right.

J. E. CHURCH,
BROKER, 14 TRUNCE AVE.

Imprisoned By Floods

Coventry's Streets Inundated and Inhabitants Are Unable to Leave Their Homes.

Buildings and Bridges Have Been Swept Away and Much Stock Drowned.

(Associated Press.)
London, Dec. 31.—Heavy snow storms, deluging rain and furious gales, have created havoc in many parts of the country. There have been disastrous floods and hundreds of the inhabitants on all sides much stock has been drowned.

The railroads and highways are blocked, buildings and bridges have been carried off and the overflowing streams have inundated miles of country, while the rains have submerged the streets in some of the towns three to four feet.

At Coventry the devastation is greater than at any time during the last 30 years. A number of factories have been flooded and hundreds of the inhabitants are imprisoned in their homes.

Many trains on the Midland railway have been stopped because of their fires being extinguished by the floods.

The town of Bath is completely isolated by the rise of the Avon, which is now ten feet above the normal.

Immense tracts of land in several counties have been transformed into inland seas, the inhabitants seeking refuge in the upper rooms of their dwellings. Many villages are altogether isolated, and some towns of considerable size are without gas owing to the works being flooded.

TIDE TABLES
For Seaports in British Columbia—Ottawa Municipal Nominations.

(Special to the Times.)
Ottawa, Dec. 31.—The tidal survey branch of the department of marine and fisheries has issued tide tables for the chief seaports in British Columbia for 1901. These are the first that have been compiled especially for the Pacific coast in Canada.

The Dominion government has passed an order-in-council approving of the sale of the Bank of British Columbia to the Bank of Commerce. This was necessary by the new Bank Act. The order will appear in the next official Gazette, and then the agreement between the banks will be legal.

Municipal nominations took place here to-day. There are six candidates in the field for the mayoralty. They are: Messrs. Cook, Morris, Campbell, Rainshil, Butler and Davis. Four were Aldermen in the present council, and Messrs. Campbell and Cook ex-aldermen.

OFFICIAL TRIP.
(Associated Press.)
New Orleans, Dec. 31.—The heads of the Southern Pacific Railway Company are gathered preparatory to starting to-day on their annual winter vacation with the new president, Chas. M. Hays. Vice-president Stubbs said to-day that the plans originally made for deep water connections at Galveston would be carried out.

BOUGHT CARRARA QUARRIES.
(Associated Press.)
London, Dec. 31.—It is stated that Senator Proctor, of Vermont, has bought the famous Carrara quarries of Italy, thus securing, with his Vermont holdings, the control of the bulk of the world's supply of statuary and building marble. The sum paid was \$1,100,000.

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Woefully Inadequate, I Indeed, it is already said the Yeomanry force at Colville failed to relieve of the nobility and other sons, Colville would never be called. The bitterness of many at being compelled because, as they allege, to render the aid which never died out, and will in one of the most in martial in the annals of army, upon the result of pend the fate of several, who have proved occasion.

The Liberal papers upon the acceptance of of a contingent of Zealand. The Star says on the Dutch will be declining to employ India taking a paltry hundred will not only infuriate it will insult the Indians regard it as a declaration of inferiority. The government on, but government of the gods could not say over invincible folly."

However, there are of that common sense, of English critics so military system, for going out to South Africa the lance and carrying for these weapons, right After over a year's fighting have awakened to news of lances and cut-throats of Boer unseemly.

While Great Britain South Africa, the navy ing its strength and in both men and ships has there are now by yards no fewer than ships, nineteen cruises smaller vessels than hundred thousand of cased vessels which have are unfinished.

The gradual removal of political and educational better instance than this week of Mr. Owen was a military.

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