

Has Dewet Been Taken?

Persistent Rumors Are in Circulation That He Is Now a Prisoner.

Information Was Received by Chartered South African Co. From Reliable Source.

The War Office, However, Has Not Any Confirmation of the Report.

(Associated Press.) London, Dec. 28.—Persistent reports are in circulation in London and on the continent that Gen. Dewet has been captured.

The British Chartered South African Company received this information from a source in which it is accustomed to place implicit confidence.

The war office, however, is without any confirmation of the report.

"Bohs" at Gibraltar.

Gibraltar, Dec. 28.—The steamer Canada, with Lord Roberts aboard, arrived here today. The field marshal landed at noon and received a great ovation. The Canada will resume her voyage to-night.

"A Hard Nut." Toronto, Dec. 28.—Col. Otter, Col. Buchan, Lt.-Col. Ryerson and officers of C Company, together with Rev. Father O'Leary and war correspondents Hamilton and Ewan of the Globe, and Brown of the Mail and Empire, were banqueted by the citizens of Toronto last night.

The Governor-General was present, and in his speech highly praised the work of the Canadians in South Africa. Regarding the guerrilla warfare now going on, Lord Minto said no European nation had ever had such a hard nut to crack as Britain has had in South Africa. In closing, Lord Minto said he would like to see far closer connection between the military forces of Canada and those of the Old Country, especially now that reforms in the Imperial army have been inaugurated.

Col. Otter briefly replied, referring in feeling terms to the dead heroes. Hon. Wm. Mulock, in response to the toast of Canada, suggested that a grateful country might erect a monument in South Africa to her fallen sons, engraved with the word "Paardeberg."

Will Arrive on January 6th. (Special to the Times.) Ottawa, Dec. 28.—The following cable was received at the militia department today: "St. Vincent, Cape Verde, Dec. 28.—Rosslyn due at Halifax about January 6th. Forty-five officers, seven nurses and 778 men of all ranks. (Signed) Drury."

This shows that there are two officers more and 16 non-commissioned officers and men less returning than previously reported.

London, Dec. 28.—Dispatches from South Africa show that Lord Kitchener has succeeded in holding the invading Boers in check, but he has not yet been successful in compelling them from Cape Colony, while small commandoes continue to display astonishing daring and activity over an immensely wide field.

It is questionable whether his proclamation will have effect until Gen. Dewet has been captured. The Boers are likely to regard it as a sign of weakness and to have a wholesome dread of Dewet's vengeance if they surrender. The proclamation is approved by the party at home that favors conciliatory terms to the Boers as a step in the right direction.

Queen Victoria, it is said, has approved the proposal to institute a new order of knighthood to reward officers who have served in South Africa. The order will probably be called the Star of Africa.

A dispatch from Vryburg, dated December 25th, says the Boers in considerable numbers were then making an unexpected movement westward. They had 150 wagons. The dispatch suggests that they were seeking to Damaraland, although the Boers themselves denied such an intention.

Attack on Garrison.

Newcastle, Natal, Dec. 27.—The Boers celebrated Christmas in the district between Standerton and Ingogo by more or less determined attacks upon every British garrison along the lines of communication. These, however, were in all cases successfully repulsed.

At Utrecht the Boer commandant sent in a demand for whisky, cigars and Christmas luxuries, failing which he threatened the town. His demand was ignored, and he attacked Utrecht in stone force Christmas morning. They were repulsed with loss, the British loss being slight.

Winnipeg's Welcome.

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.—In order that citizens might welcome home the men from the West who went to Africa with the first contingent, today was observed as a holiday here.

The train was late in arriving, but despite this and the chilly atmosphere, nearly 5,000 people thronged the streets adjacent to where the men stepped off, and tremendous cheers greeted the

heroes. An attempt was made to organize a procession up Main street, but so dense was the crowd that but little order could be maintained. A portion of the veterans were accompanied by the local military bodies, while others were carried up the street on the shoulders of friends and admirers.

At Holy Trinity church a short service was held, after which the march was resumed to the drill hall, where luncheon was served to about 200 by the city council and local government. Short speeches of welcome were made. To-night a promenade concert and public welcome was held.

The following British Columbians are in the party: Corporal Corbould, 6th Rifles, New Westminster; Corporal Lohman, Pte. J. Porte Smith, Pte. Walkie, 6th Rifles, New Westminster; Pte. Allen, Pte. Bonner, Pte. Harrison, Pte. Sinclair, 6th Rifles, Vancouver; Pte. Brethour and Pte. Smethurst, 5th C. A., Victoria.

Col. Otter's Service. Toronto, Dec. 27.—At the banquet to Col. Otter to-night Lord Minto referred to his connection with Otter during the rebellion, and remarked he thought Otter had received some of the best recognition for the splendid services he had performed there. He commented on the great responsibility thrown on Otter in assuming the command of a thousand men full of enthusiasm and fight, but absolutely lacking in regimental machinery. Under Otter's administration as well as under his gallant leading in action this battalion had covered itself with distinction.

"The campaign in South Africa has been one of the hardest fought, in the history of the Empire," said Lord Minto, "and I hope the opportunities Col. Otter has had of studying modern warfare on a large scale may go far in assisting to direct the practical efficiency of Canada's forces. We have learned that ancient tactics must give way before repeating rifles and quick firing guns, and that we must depend more on the individuality of the soldier. But I hope we are not going to draw from this the false conclusion that lower formation and greater individuality in the ranks are to minimize the necessity for discipline or lessen the powers of the superior directing control. I believe that broader mental tactics of the future will require a greater realization by the private soldier of the intentions of his commander and all the more implicit obedience to his directions. It will be indeed unfortunate if our lessons in irregular fighting should encourage the idea that 'go as you please' for huge collections of individual rifle shots. The humane characteristics of the armies of the present day have more fully rendered uncalled for iron discipline which attempted to control heroes of Badajoz or St. Sebastian, but if we are to succeed the recognition of the controlling power of command must exist now as of old through all ranks."

Lord Minto concluded: "I feel sure that Colonel Otter will not be overlooked by Her Majesty's government when the time arrives for the distribution of distinctions to those who have done good service for the Empire in South Africa."

Grant to Molloy. Ottawa, Dec. 27.—The Patriotic fund committee has made a grant of \$1,000 to Trooper Molloy, who lost his eyesight in action in South Africa.

Capetown, Dec. 28.—Gen Dewet's attempt to break through to the south has been frustrated and he is now reported to be at Senekal with a large commando, holding the country between Ladybrand and Winburg.

The eastern parties of invading Boers are being constantly harassed and driven back towards the Orange River Colony. The Yeomanry who were captured near Britstown have been released.

Resignations. London, Dec. 28.—Lt.-Col. Sprague, who commanded the Yeomanry at Lindley, has resigned. Several other resignations have been gazetted, among them being that of Mr. Ivor Guest, M. P., a captain of the Yeomanry.

Mining Plant Damaged. Johannesburg, Dec. 28.—The Boers damaged the new Kleinfontein and Obintz mining plant yesterday.

The First Contingent. Ottawa, Dec. 28.—The first contingent is disbanded from 31st December.

Boys Leave for Home. Winnipeg, Dec. 28.—The British Columbia volunteers were given a hearty send-off this evening upon their departure for the coast.

They are loud in praise of the treatment received here. Colville at Plymouth. London, Dec. 29.—A dispatch from Plymouth announces the arrival there of Major-General Sir Henry Colville, whose resignation has been demanded by the war office, but who has refused to resign, and has come to England from Gibraltar to demand a court martial with reference to the responsibility for the Yeomanry disaster at Lindley last May.

(Associated Press.) London, Dec. 29.—Some officers have resigned from almost all the fifteen battalions of the Yeomanry, Capt. Lord Alwyne Frederick Compton among them. This raises a doubt as to whether the resignations are connected with the Lindley affair or are merely in the line of routine retirement, especially as a fortnight ago the secretary of state for war announced in parliament that the court martial inquiry had entirely exonerated from blame Lieut.-Colonel Sprague and his regiment.

Forced Toward the North. Naauwpoort, Dec. 29.—Gen. De laet has severely defeated Heitzog's com-

mando, 18 miles west of De Aar, and has driven them towards Prieska. He captured a number of wagons and released the Cape police, who were captured at Philippstown.

Gen. Grenfell has turned back Krieger's commando toward Ventersburg. Both sections of the raiders are in a desperate plight, and it is probable that they will never be able to return to the Orange River Colony. They have received little accession in strength from the colonial Dutch.

The invasion will probably end in complete failure. It is held here that the rapid movement of the British forces which has brought about this result reflects the greatest credit on the army. Recruiting here for the Prince of Wales's Light Horse is proceeding at the rate of 40 men daily. Five hundred troopers are being raised here. The Prince recently gave special permission for the use of his name. The regiment promises to be among the most popular of the new corps that are being raised.

Official Announcement. Capetown, Dec. 29.—The government has issued a dispatch stating that the two Boers' columns which invaded the Cape Colony have not met with success. The eastern column has not succeeded in getting further south, and Gen. Grenfell has pushed them back a considerable distance in the direction of the Orange River.

The western column has almost entirely abandoned the Philippstown district. About 45 of the Yeomanry who were captured were disarmed and almost immediately released.

It is believed that this column will be divided into two parts, and both are being followed by the British force which relieved Britstown. No considerable number of colonists have joined the invaders.

There is still considerable unrest along the Bechuanaland border, between Fourteen Streams and Vryburg. Second Contingent. Ottawa, Dec. 29.—The second battalion, Royal Canadian regiment, is disbanded from December 31st.

May Succeed Major-Gen. Haley. Toronto, Dec. 29.—Military men expect to see Col. Otter appointed Major-General of Canadian militia in place of Major-General O'Grady Haley, who they assert, was only engaged for a year.

Fishery Cruisers

Contracts Awarded for Construction of Vessels for Use on Pacific Coast.

Albion Iron Works, of This City, Will Build One of the Boats.

(Special to the Times.) Ottawa, Dec. 28.—Sir Louis Davies awarded contracts to-day for two cruisers for the province of British Columbia.

Tenders were asked some time ago for these cruisers. One of the boats is to be used at the mouth of the Fraser river and the other for fishery protection service on the Pacific ocean.

The contract for the large cruiser, which is to be used on the Pacific Coast, has been awarded to A. Wallace, Vancouver, B. C. This steamer is to be 136 feet long over all, breadth 24 feet, hold 10 feet, depth moulded 11 feet, 11 masted and classed as 11 years "A1" at Lloyd's. It will carry 150 tons of coal. There will be three officers, three engineers and fifteen seamen. The price is to be between \$90,000 and \$70,000.

The small cruiser is to be 60 feet long, 11 broad and 6 feet depth. The contract goes to the Albion Iron Works, Victoria, B. C. The price is between \$70,000 and \$85,000.

A condition of the contract is that the fair wage resolution will be embodied in it.

HARMSWORTH'S OPINIONS.

Germany, He Says, Is Watching the Course of Events in the Philippines.

New York, Dec. 28.—Alfred C. Harmsworth, the editor and owner of the London Daily Mail, who has just arrived here, says in an interview: "There is no adverse criticism, on the part of the English, of the amendments to the Hay-Panaceote treaty, so far as I have ascertained. You are going to build the canal, pay for it, and why should you not control it. If we dug a canal we would certainly expect to control it, and I think America looks at the matter in much the same light."

Referring to the insurrection in the Philippines, he said: "The Germans are watching the course events are taking, thinking that America will finally give up the job as a bad proposition and then they expect to come in and finish matters. France is also watching closely the trend of affairs over there."

STRIKE STILL ON.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 28.—The strike of the street railway men is as complete today as the day it was declared. Last night at midnight an agent of the company reached here with fifty men from New York, but he landed only three at the traction company's office.

Warning To France

The Pope on Attitude of Waldeck-Rousseau Ministry Towards Religious Orders.

Says the Proposed Bill Will Drive Catholics From the Republic.

And Hopes Government Will Not Renounce Services He Is Able to Render.

(Associated Press.) Paris, Dec. 29.—The Matin publishes an interview with the Pope devoted exclusively to the attitude of the Waldeck-Rousseau ministry toward the religious congregations.

Referring to the premier's speech at Toulouse, October 28th, when M. Waldeck-Rousseau enlarged upon the necessity of the chamber passing a law regulating associations—a measure directed against religious congregations—the Pontiff said: "The concordat is being changed from an instrument of peace into one of war and oppressively. Every in Protestant countries religious orders are not excluded from the liberties enjoyed by other citizens. They will probably return to England and the United States, as in the days of the Terror, to find a refuge against the iniquity of Catholic France. The association's bill is the negation of all the laws of liberty."

"I hope the French government will not be so stupid as to renounce the services I am still able to render her. Several times recently I have been solicited by the head of a powerful state to permit the rights of France in the East and Far East to be disregarded. I have refused, although compensations were offered to the Church. But if the orders, without which Catholic expansion is impossible, are to be suppressed, what answer shall I give in a day when similar proposals are made?"

To Attack The Boxers

British Troops Dispatched to Disperse the Rebels Near Yang Tsun.

Little Opposition Is Expected as the Natives Have Very Few Arms.

Pekin, Dec. 27.—The British have increased their garrison at Yang Tsun by 1,000, with horses and three guns. A flying column of 1,000 cavalry will scour the country between Tien Tsin and Yang Tsun, in obedience to Field Marshal von Waldersee's orders, to be on the alert in view of the French report of an engagement with 2,500 Chinese troops. Col. Tullock's regiment will return to destroy the towns he held. This action is owing to the fact that it has been discovered that a number of Boxers unquestionably made their headquarters.

The British say they do not expect serious trouble, mainly because the Boxers lack arms. Fortunately the Chinese are afraid to trust them with arms, as the government fears a rebellion against the present dynasty.

Two soldiers have been found dead outside the Temple of Heaven, with bullets in their heads. The murders are believed to have been committed by the Chinese.

A detail of the Sixth United States cavalry will leave to-morrow to investigate the recent burning of the Chinese and the capture of Boxers, as reported by Rev. Mr. Kelly, the Presbyterian missionary. The expedition will be commanded by Lieut.-Col. Theodore J. Winn, of the Sixth Cavalry.

The Peace Terms.

Shanghai, Dec. 27.—The Chinese newspapers here object to the proposed peace terms. The Universal Gazette considers that the princes and officials who are to be punished should be named. It is questionable whether Tung Fuh Hsiang is included among the punishable, and the British ambassador at Paris. The failure of the peace terms, of which he is the head, adds one more sorrow to the closing chapter of his life, for he is to-day preparing to start for South Africa in company with Lady Dufferin in consequence of the serious condition of his son, Lord Frederick Temple Blackwood, the lieutenant in the Ninth Lancers, who was wounded Monday at Glenfontein. It is scarcely a year since Lord Dufferin lost his eldest son, the Earl of Ava, who died at Lady Smith. He is here, says in a family grief at his honored name is dragged in the financial mire.

Lord Dufferin's fellow directors are known in connection with many companies; Lieut.-Gen. the Hon. Somerset J. Gough-Calthorpe, who has been colonel-in-chief of the Fifth Dragoons since 1892, and Lord Polham-Clyton, master of the Queen's household, and son of the former Duke of Newcastle.

According to a dispatch received by the Associated Press from London the financial papers announce this morning that some trouble was disclosed on the stock exchange yesterday in the West Australian market, resulting in a considerable fall in the shares of the London & Globe Finance Corporation, Ltd., and Le Roi Mining Co., Ltd. Seven firms saw their checks returned by the clearing house; this, the dispatch added, did not imply failure, however, as it was expected that the usual period of grace allowed would enable the firms to meet their engagements.

Storm and Wrecks

Violent Gales Are Again Sweeping the Coasts of the British Isles.

A Number of Vessels of All Kinds Have Been Driven Ashore.

Fortunately the Casualties Are Slight—Four Men Drowned by Capsizing of Boat.

(Associated Press.) London, Dec. 28.—There have been more storms and violent gales in the channel, and considerable damage has been wrought ashore. The telegraph lines are down in many places.

The British bark Pegasus, from San Francisco for Queenstown, foundered off the Fenarth rocks. One man of the crew was landed at Cardiff. The fate of the rest is unknown.

While the British bark Queen of Cambria was being towed into Palmouth, her tow line parted and she was blown across the bows of the British bark Crown of India, damaging the latter's head. The Queen of Cambria was cut down to the water's edge. She was beached, and is leaking.

Failures In London

Suspension of London and Globe Finance Corporation—Marquis of Dufferin, Chairman.

It Is Heavily Involved in the British Columbia Market—Sensation in Metropolis.

(Associated Press.) London, Dec. 29.—The London & Globe Finance Corporation, Ltd., has suspended payment. When the brokers yesterday delivered stock purchased on account of the London & Globe and asked for payment, they received checks which were dishonored. This was followed to-day by the failure on the stock exchange of 12 firms: Haggard, Hale & Prierley, Care & Driver, Douglas, Jr., & Co., Coppsfoot Bros., F. A. Cohen, Bloxby & Deekingham, Gunn & Arthur, Richards & Sloper, Baker & Smith, F. C. Watts & Co., Flower & Co. and P. Bouilly & Co.

The first named is a big firm with important connections. It is feared a number of smaller jobbers will be affected.

While the difficulties of the firms connected with the London & Globe division were largely discounted, the repeated fall of the hammer this morning caused a great sensation. It is feared the full list of failures is not yet known.

Almost the whole interest on the stock exchange to-day centred in the West Australian market, the condition of which sympathetically affected the others. All the shares of the London & Globe group tumbled, especially Lake Views and Le Roi No. 2. The shares of the latter were yesterday quoted at 22, to-day they are unobtainable at 4. The London & Globe is also heavily involved in the British Columbia market. The situation is not yet cleared up, as the rumors of arrangements to assist the London & Globe are not credited in well-informed circles. There is the greatest indignation against Mr. Whitaker-Wright, who is the fountain head of the concern, and others of the London & Globe group. There has been somewhat of a recovery in Lake Views since yesterday evening.

The failure of the London & Globe Finance Corporation brought about the failure of 13 firms on the London stock exchange, who are especially connected with the Whitaker-Wright group. The financial trouble is, however, confined to that particular group. Le Roi No. 1 only declined one half a point, closing 5%.

The chairman of the London & Globe Finance Corporation, Ltd., is the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, the former Governor-General of Canada and the British ambassador at Paris. The failure of the concern, of which he is the head, adds one more sorrow to the closing chapter of his life, for he is to-day preparing to start for South Africa in company with Lady Dufferin in consequence of the serious condition of his son, Lord Frederick Temple Blackwood, the lieutenant in the Ninth Lancers, who was wounded Monday at Glenfontein. It is scarcely a year since Lord Dufferin lost his eldest son, the Earl of Ava, who died at Lady Smith. He is here, says in a family grief at his honored name is dragged in the financial mire.

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Wrecks Reported.

London, Dec. 28.—Reports arriving from all the coasts announce damage done by the storm. Vessels in great numbers are seeking shelter in the harbors, and a number of minor wrecks have been announced.

A dispatch from Holyhead says the British bark Primrose Hill is drifting up the Channel under bare poles. The coast guardmen are endeavoring to assist her with the life-saving apparatus. Later dispatches from Cardiff indicate that the Pegasus has not foundered. The statement of the loss originated with a cable of her crew, who was landed at Cardiff this morning. It now appears that the Pegasus grounded on the Penarth Point, but she was subsequently floated and towed to a place of shelter. When she grounded her boats were made ready for lowering, and the davit of one of them carried away, precipitating five men into the water. They were all drowned, with the exception of the sailor landed at Cardiff. This man was picked up by a tug.

A Spanish steamer was driven ashore at the Portland breakwater. The Weymouth lifeboat attempted to rescue her crew, but the fearful seas running prevented it.

The British steamer Penopolis is ashore on the sands between Abaraven and Briton Ferry. No fatalities have occurred.

The gale is so furious in the Channel that the continental services were suspended this afternoon.

NEW CABINET.

For Prince Edward Island Was Sworn in Yesterday.

Charlottetown, Dec. 28.—The members of the new government are: Premier Farquharson, attorney-general; A. Peters, commissioner of public works; Cumisiskey, commissioner of agriculture; B. Rogers, provincial secretary; Macleod, without portfolio. Messrs. Malcolm, MacDonald, James Richards, R. C. McLeod, Peters, McNutt and George Forbes. Four of the members were previously members of the Farquharson government. The choice of a Speaker has not yet been made.

The members of the executive were sworn in to-day.

ELOPED WITH COACHMAN.

Runaway Wife Found in Winnipeg and Has Returned Home.

Winnipeg, Dec. 28.—Mrs. W. R. Savage, wife of the mayor of Wellington, Kansas, who eloped with her little daughter and her husband's coachman, Frank Cyler, has been living with Cyler for the past nine months. Mrs. Savage's sisters arrived there last week, and with the aid of detectives, located the erring woman and finally induced her to return home.

A CORNER IN BEANS.

Heavy Purchases Caused a Rise to Over Two Dollars Per Bushel.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—A corner in beans is the latest novelty in the Chicago market. It is being engineered by the Albert Dickinson Co. Within two weeks the price has risen from \$1.84 per bushel to \$2.00, and dealers predict a further advance to \$2.50 within a fortnight. Heavy purchases by the government are said to be at the bottom of the boom in prices.

THIEVES' HAUL.

Detroit, Dec. 28.—The Michigan Central depot at Wyandotte, a suburb of Detroit, was the scene of a bold mail robbery some time last night, when a pouch containing, it is estimated, \$100,000 of negotiable paper, checks and money, was stolen from the waiting room. Two class mail matter were on the platform arrived at 2:08. Night Operator Dicher, it is supposed, took the two bags, and instead of carrying them to the ticket office, where the mail is usually kept, allowed them to lie in the waiting room.