

## VULETIDE WAS SHADOWED

Activity of Boers Again Gave a Christmas Gloom to Great Britain.

THUS FOR THIRD SUCCESSIVE YEAR

Coincidence in Severe Losses Upon the Fields of Battle in South Africa.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—The Record-Herald prints the following: The shadow of the Boer war once again and the British Christmas. Last week's heavy fighting in the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony came, like so many South African disasters, just when the nation entered on the season's festivities. Indeed, it would seem as if the Boers deliberately planned attacks for the purpose of converting the red-letter days of the British calendar into black-letter days.

Christmas, 1899, gave the empire Stormberg, Magersfontein and Colenso, in quick succession, not to mention the sieges of Ladysmith, Kimberley and Mafeking.

Their Christmas box of 1900 consisted of Delarey's box to Clement's column at Noodinaberg, where the British casualties, roughly, amounted to 600.

Losses in Four Battles. This year, with numbers greatly diminished, and with Lord Kitchener's black horses dotting the field, the burghers offer for the imperial stocking the losses at Beersburg, Paardeburg, Ladysmith and Mafeking.

During the past two years, the Boers have shown a fondness for fighting on Sunday, a day which is sacred to the English as well as to the Boers, and which is the day of the Boer's religious observance.

Home-Coming Dimmed. Three brilliant occasions stand out conspicuously dimmed by Boer activity—the homecomings. The homecoming of Lord Roberts was just preceded by combined attacks on British posts at Beersburg, Paardeburg and Mafeking.

Lord Milner had barely landed the insignia of the Order of the Bath when the Boers, on the day of his arrival, attacked on Colonel Dixon's force at Vlakfontein.

Lastly, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught touched their native shores simultaneously with the arrival of the Boers, and General Buller's fatal attack on Colonel Benson's rearguard at Brakenburg.

The intelligence and effectiveness with which the Boers have fought is indicated by the fact that they have now very much alive to the gravity of the situation, and not only gladly accept colonial reinforcements, but willingly seek recruits in every quarter of the United Kingdom.

Mr. Chamberlain, who only a few months ago, presided the House of Commons at the work of withdrawing the army from South Africa, will be seen in a little while, as he is expected to be the principal speaker at the latest celebration at the opera house in the afternoon.

For Ward Six. John Galt, barrister, is a candidate for School Trustees in Ward 6. He is an excellent teacher of the war. His platform embodies a reasonable expansion of the three R's, and expresses a firm belief in the merit system. He believes that the school should be laid on the teaching of writing, spelling, arithmetic, grammar and book-keeping, as well as to benefit the pupils in other ways. His candidature should command itself.

Gravely Situation. The militia which will take part in the sham battle will arrive tomorrow morning. The battle will be at a school of the Victoria and Albert College, where the principal speaker at the latest celebration at the opera house in the afternoon.

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## DOMINION IMMIGRATION.

### It is Proposed to Institute a More Vigorous Policy.

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—Mr. J. A. Smart, Deputy Minister of the Interior, accompanied by Mr. W. J. Wilson, assistant at immigration, left for the United States, leaving for England on Tuesday next to investigate matters connected with the immigration service there. It has been decided to place the immigration offices in England and Europe under the control of Mr. W. T. R. Preston, subject to the direction of the High Commissioner, but further changes are contemplated. Mr. Smart has power to open an immigration office in the business centre of London, if, after careful investigation, he finds such a step to be necessary. The immigration work in London is conducted at the High Commissioner's office on Victoria-street. Westminister, but it has been thought, for some time, that this office is a little out of the way, and that a location in a more prominent street might be found. Mr. Smart will also visit each one of the different branch agencies in Britain, and study the methods of working, with a view of ascertaining where improvement can be introduced.

Will Advise More. It is intended to include in advertising on the subject of immigration just one plan than has hitherto been done. The value of advertising has been well demonstrated in the case of the immigration of the United States. It was long ago found that, while advertising was maintained, inquiries about land for settlement were numerous, but that inquiries dropped, if the advertising was dropped for any reason. It is therefore intended to make known Canada's resources in the United States has been followed, and to this is attributed the establishment of the Western States to Western Canada.

Aiding British Settlers. The Immigration Department desires to pursue the same policy in Great Britain, and it is hoped successful results will follow. The department is now in the process of securing the necessary facilities to settle the unemployed lands of Canada and the other British dominions, and, if the British present acts upon the suggestion of the Immigration Department, the work of the Canadian Immigration Branch will be greatly facilitated.

Our Small Percentage. Last year, Canada received 12,000 settlers from Britain, or only about one-fourth of the number which went from the British Isles to the United States. A strong endeavor will be made by means of the Immigration Department, to attract a large volume of British immigration to Canada. Messrs. Smart and Wilson will be absent about six weeks on their mission.

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## CITY NEWS.

### Berlin Gets Sugar Factory.

The Ontario Sugar Beet Co. decided to locate their factory at Berlin, Ont., at a meeting of the Site Committee, held at the Council Chamber of the Board of Trade yesterday. Upwards of \$200,000 of the capital stock of the company has already been subscribed, and about \$50,000 will be needed for the erection of the factory and installing the machinery.

Sugar beet manufacture is a purely cooperative basis, and in the above company selecting Berlin for the location of their factory, it is understood that three contracts, the farmers of that district shall grow at least 500 acres of beets for the use of the factory.

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## THE ADAMS FURNITURE CO.

### "We extend you all the heartiest good wishes of the season."

To use an old speech, trade in our new home has gone away beyond "our most sanguine expectations." We sold more furniture—more fine furniture—than at any holiday time before—and the ease with which we got everything packed, shipped and delivered on time makes us feel just a bit proud of ourselves and our service—and if any little thing may have missed connections—didn't get there—or the wrong thing got there—we'll be only too pleased to have you report it, and we'll hurry to rectify it.

For the rest of the week you can figure on straight price cuts of about a third off all our special holiday lines—in Cabinets—Secretaries—Desks—Easy Chairs—Rockers—Easels—Screens—Bric-a-Brac—Etc.

How About a Range Heater? Going to make a change this winter?—Had cold weather enough to test your old?—Find it unsatisfactory?—Good time now to take it over with our stove man—and get pointers on the "Treasure" Line.

Stoves and Ranges \$1 a Week Till Paid for.

THE ADAMS FURNITURE CO., LIMITED, City Hall Square, C. S. CORRELL, Manager.

Creed Revision. Work consists of a statement of Faith and a Declaration of Statement.

Settlers for New Ontario. During the past few months of this year 90,000 locations of land have been taken up in the Western Canadian country.

A Useful Christmas Token. The Ontario Bank kindly rendered a hand some and useful day, neatly bound and small enough to be carried in a vest pocket.

Unprecedented Christmas Mail. Postoffice Employees Rushed for Several Days.

Police Court Record. Herbert Turan of West Beaver-street, on charges of shooting at a woman and John McKinnon, on charges of shooting at a woman, were remanded till Tuesday in the Police Court yesterday.

Management Committee. The Management Committee of the Public School Board, after a warm discussion on various matters, ended their last session of the year yesterday, by a unanimous vote.

Hanna's Tribute. New York, Dec. 26.—Mark Hanna