

Victory at Any Cost.

People of Great Britain Looking Hopefully for Success in Africa.

White Boers Are Pressing President McKinley to Mediate for Peace.

Mr. Stead Has a Vision of a Raid on London by Frenchmen.

By Associated Press. London, Dec. 23.—Not for many years past has London been in such a position as confronts her this Christmas. Yet to meet it there has arisen a new Britain which by its virility and pluck extorts admiration even from her bitterest Continental critics. The comments of the foreign papers—at least such as are printed here—are couched in terms far more friendly than when it was believed a speedy victory awaited Gen. Buller. As repeatedly asserted, there is no likelihood of European interference as yet. W. P. Stead in the Daily Chronicle to-day has a very alarming column in which he has visions of a "superior Jamieson raid by 6,000 Frenchmen on London in the absence of the Channel fleet." Mr. Stead points out, however, what in his opinion might be accomplished, and says: "To rely, as some appear to do, upon the addition of a number of raw recruits under the excitement and stimulus of the present war fever, is to rely on a broken reed. Wool-walkers might see the French tricolor flying over Westminster before the first of the new recruits could have learned to handle a gun."

Though Great Britain's campaign in South Africa seems temporarily checked, the Associated Press learns that the Boers are straining every nerve to secure the mediation of President McKinley towards a favorable peace. But anyone with the slightest knowledge of British feeling appreciates that not one person in a million contemplates such a result but the ultimate British triumph, and all sections unite in saying that this must be secured, no matter at what cost. Hence the Boers, in their slight hopes of mediation would be accepted, even though President McKinley should be persuaded to proffer it. The Associated Press is informed from excellent sources that no offer of mediation would be accepted by Lord Salisbury in any shape or form. The popular expectation is that peace is that it must come through the aid of the army, Gen. Roberts, and his not less adored chief of staff, Gen. Buller. The Boers are anticipated to wait indefinitely for that eventuality. The fall of Kimberley, Ladysmith and Mafeking would not make a particle of difference, for this is the only point thoroughly imbedded in the hearts of the people. Any other defeats that the future holds for the British, except entire annihilation, are anticipated with seething criticism which the nation has inflicted upon itself. Estimates of the duration of hostilities vary from three months to a year.

FOR A SUMMER CAMPAIGN. British Preparations Are for a Long Siege—Volunteer Reinforcements for the Regiments.

New York, Dec. 24.—The London correspondent of the Sun says: "The war office authorities seem to be at last convinced that the war will last far longer than was at first expected. Last Wednesday they placed with one firm in London a contract for 10,000 tons of fodder, the delivery to commence in South Africa during the first week in March. Similar contracts have probably been made elsewhere showing that the war office is preparing for a continuance of the war until well along in the summer. Commenting on the manner in which the government is to make use of the Volunteers, namely, having each Volunteer battalion supply one company to its line battalion in the field and keep a second company ready at home, in reserve, Mr. Henry Spencer Wilkinson says: "Thus the Volunteer force is to be used by being absorbed into the army. This will lead inevitably to the amalgamation of the Volunteers and the regular army, and is the death blow of the specific character of each. It means that henceforth the British, like other armies, will be homogeneous, containing no other categories than men who are in the colors and men in reserve, classified according to their immediate liability to be called up. The week's fall, besides serving partially to raise the gloom caused by the news of Gen. Buller's defeat, the recovery being greatly assisted by the appointment of Gen. Roberts and Gen. Buller, has also greatly diminished the rate of ascension of the casualty list. The week's official though, though it is probably incomplete, makes the total now 7,737."

TOLSTOI'S RECOVERY. Moscow, Dec. 24.—Count Tolstol is now pronounced by medical advisers fully restored to ordinary health.

CAPITAL NOTES. Officers for the Second Contingent Not Yet Appointed.

Ottawa, Dec. 23.—The cabinet met again to-day to revise the list of officers. Until the officers are appointed the work of enrollment cannot be commenced. Major Tucker, M.P., is here to urge that St. John be made the port of embarkation for either the artillery or rifles.

The postal changes in British Columbia take effect on January 1, when the Mainland will be divided from the Island for postal purposes. D. G. Macdonnell, Vancouver, gives notice of an application for a charter to build a railway from Bennett to Laberge and thence to the mouth of the Hootan. Wilson & Skelton, also of Vancouver, will apply for a charter to build a railway from Kikmat Arm to Pine River Pass.

THE QUEEN'S CHRISTMAS. Happy Party Gather Round Her Majesty at Windsor.

London, Dec. 23.—In spite of the deep anxiety of the Queen regarding events in South Africa, she has no intention to permit Christmas at Windsor to assume other than a festive character. The Duke of Connaught, the Marquis of Lome and Princess Louise and a host of little folks, other members of the royal family and Canon Duckworth, the Queen's chaplain, were gathered at Windsor this evening, where they were met by Princess Henry of Battenberg, the Duchess of Albany and others, who will make up a cheerful party.

Vancouver's News Budget. Salaries of the Postal Clerks to Be Increased Next Year.

From Our Own Correspondent. Vancouver, Dec. 23.—Enquiries at the post office to-day elicited the fact that all clerks in the Vancouver office in receipt of less than \$800 per annum would be advanced \$5 per month from January 1, and that Post Office Inspector Bennett had wired to the department recommending the advance immediately. It is understood that Mr. Bennett in spite of having stated to the Colonist correspondent that the Vancouver clerks were not under paid or overworked compared to other offices, reported that the cost of living in the West necessitated an additional provisional salary all around for clerks receiving a lower sum than \$68.68 a month. The increase of course must be followed by a similar increase in Victoria and other British Columbia towns. The post office officials here, however, say that Vancouver is the most expensive city in British Columbia to live in owing to the high rents for small dwellings. Victoria was particularly mentioned as a cheaper place to live in than Vancouver.

Mayor Garden to Be Ald. Brown's Opponent in Mayoralty Contest.

Mayor Garden has declared himself as a candidate for the third term as chief magistrate. This announcement was made after the Deadman's Island convention had named Ald. Wm. Brown as his choice. It looks as if the prophecy the Colonist made a month ago that the Deadman's Island would be the one issue of the municipal campaign in Vancouver was correct. William Quinn has been arrested charged with administering liquor to a girl under 16. The card playing cases have been laid over until judgment has been given in the Petri case. Lieut. Hamersley, son of the city solicitor, has called his parents that he is bound for South Africa from Malta with his regiment. Mr. E. H. Sands of the News-Advertiser is recovering from a severe attack of illness. F. E. McFeely, who returned from Atlin yesterday, I was 15 below zero when Mr. McFeely left. Many a Christmas dinner will be spoiled in Vancouver. Thousands of dollars' worth of turkeys and geese sent to Vancouver from Ontario were tainted. They thawed after freezing in Ontario.

LEAD DUKE'S WEALTH. He Had an Annual Income of Over Three Million Dollars.

London, Dec. 23.—While most persons know that the late Duke of Westminster was one of the richest men in England, no London newspaper has taken the trouble to secure an estimate of his wealth. He owned several London parcels of real estate which together, according to the Duke's own statements, made six hundred acres. Much of this is in Belgrave, the aristocratic residence quarter. He also had thirty thousand acres in the country and an annual income of £750,000. His realty values in London were worth £30,000,000. The heir to the dukedom is the late Duke's grandson, Viscount Belgrave, now in South Africa, an aide-de-camp of Sir Alfred Milner, the governor of Cape Colony.

MINISTERS, LAWYERS, TEACHERS AND OTHERS, whose occupation gives but little exercise, should use Carter's Little Liver Pills for sluggishness and biliousness.

Britishers' Self-Reliance. Enrolling Army for Government's Assistance but Without Demand on Treasury.

Citizens of Town and Country Flocking to Standards of Their Titled Leaders.

Steamship Lines Offering Free Transport—Collection for Soldiers' Families.

By Associated Press. New York, Dec. 24.—The London correspondent of the Evening Post cables at length regarding the manner in which the people of Great Britain take a crisis, and how they have set to work to straighten matters out. He says: "England takes her crisis in her own peculiar way. In France, Russia, Germany, or any other great European country, it would presumably be the government that all men would turn for escape from the threatened national disaster. In England today the Englishman thinks of his government only to criticize it, and with heartfelt expletives denounces its military methods of transport, its artillery of too short range, its failure to provide the regular mounted troops most needed for scouting, and so on.

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A TRUCE OVER CHRISTMAS. Opposing Forces Have Understood That Hostilities Are Suspended for the World's Great Festival.

London, Dec. 25.—4:30 a.m.—The war office has received a cablegram from Gen. Buller, dated at Capetown yesterday, saying: "Have no further news of general situation. It may be almost safely predicted that nothing will occur to-day. A truce, either formal or informal, is being kept for the observance of Christmas by the opposing forces."

CONNAUGHT DISAPPOINTED. Was Accepted by General Roberts as Staff Officer but Government Withheld Assent.

London, Dec. 25.—The Duke of Connaught again pressed to be allowed to go to the front, but the government declined to give its assent. Then waving his hand, he said, "I will follow his services to Lord Roberts in any capacity as a staff officer. Lord Roberts considered, but the government again declined."

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War's Cost Fifty Million. So Figure Politicians in Speculating on Financial Policy of the Ministry.

Cannot Be Charged to Revenue and Borrowing Preferred to New Taxes. Suggested Cabinet Changes Not Likely Since the Agitators Lack Following.

By Associated Press. NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Touching on the political side of the South African war, the London correspondent of the Tribune says: "It is not likely that there will be any cabinet changes, since Mr. Alfred Harmsworth's claims to political dictatorship, by virtue of having a string of profitable newspapers under his personal control, are not recognized."

"This millionaire newspaper owner, who was a clerk with a modest salary under Sir George Grey, and who a few years ago, is Lord Rosebery's friend and aspires to be a political Warwick for both parties, with a large incidental income, is not likely to increase the difficulties of the ministry by raising the rate of taxation, and thereby rendering the war unpopular, when he has the means to provide for his expenses by charging them against revenues for two or three years, and carrying a large floating debt. It is not likely to increase the difficulties of the ministry by raising the rate of taxation, and thereby rendering the war unpopular, when he has the means to provide for his expenses by charging them against revenues for two or three years, and carrying a large floating debt. 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Chamberlain Is Pleased

His Letter to Governor General After Sending the First Contingent.

Appointments to the Provincial Service Noted in the Official Gazette.

Yesterday's issue of the British Columbia Gazette promulgates the following communication from Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain to His Excellency the Governor-General, in which the Colonial Secretary acknowledges with thanks the great enthusiasm and the fitting contributions in South Africa, and fittingly commends upon the proofs of colonial devotion to the throne and flag that the past few months have produced.

Downing Street, Nov. 15, 1899. My Lord: I received from you on the 2nd inst. a copy of an approved minute of the Dominion Privy Council dated the 14th of October, 1899, in which your ministers authorized the equipment and despatch of 1,000 volunteers for service with the Imperial forces in South Africa.

Among the business announcements contained in the current Gazette are notices of the incorporation of the following companies: The Western Mineral and Gold-Company, of Cranbrook, capital \$500,000; the Mountain View Copper Co. of Vancouver, capital \$300,000; Hillside Silver Mines Co. of Kaslo, capital \$150,000; People's Trading Stamp Co. of Vancouver, capital \$50,000; Greenwood Electric Company of Greenwood, capital \$75,000; and Caldwell Mines, Limited, of Rossland, capital \$100,000.

Among the week's appointments are noted the selection of Thomas A. Wilson of Trout Lake as a provincial coroner; of William F. Gurd of Cranbrook; and of E. A. Carey-Gibson of 560-1/2 Street, as notaries public; and of Wm. McEwen, Rossland; John Hemen, Cedar; and J. B. Burr, Ladner, as justices of the peace.

Tenders for the restaurant privileges attached to the session of the legislature are invited by an advertisement of the provincial secretary, all bids to be in the hands of that minister by tomorrow.

Salmon Arm school district has been divided by the council of public instruction, and will hereafter consist of two districts—Salmon Arm East and Salmon Arm West.

A court of revision and appeal for Northeast Kootenay to be held at Golden on the 29th inst.

THE DEAF MUTES. The following letter has been received from Miss Helen Merritt:

My mother would express most grateful thanks to all the people whose kind assistance has permitted me to keep those unfortunate children under my instruction long enough to enable them to give such a public demonstration of their intellectual and physical capacity for acquisition as was clearly shown last evening.

HELEN WILLARD MERRITT. My mother's school for deaf and dumb pupils will be in session from one o'clock until four, on the 2nd and 3rd of January. My mother and I are invited to visit it at any of those hours.

DISORDERLY FRENCH DEPUTIES. Paris, Dec. 22.—The discussion of the government's request for two million provisional appropriation in the chamber of deputies this afternoon gave its opponents the opportunity to give vent to their feelings in a manner which they did not neglect. M. Millereux, ex-Boulangist, M. Merelin and others complained of the government's policy in the country trial, declaring that the delay involving the budget was due to the senate's time being occupied by the high court sessions.

M. Lasies, anti-Semite, who frequently interrupted the speaker, here cried: "No. To bring Victoria up to the standard fixed by the underwriters the pressure should be increased by at least 40 pounds and longer mains laid on many of the streets." The government and Water streets for example being at present supplied by 16 and 4 inch mains respectively.

LOCAL NEWS.

Four Months for Dishonesty.—The little Japanese house-servant Yoi Abo, who was apprehended with a quantity of jewelry and a sum of money in her possession belonging to Mrs. Bishop, her employer, was yesterday sentenced to four months at hard labor. She had confessed her guilt.

Suit for Damages.—In the county court yesterday, Mr. Justice Drake presiding, the action of Captain Land re. the J. L. Card Steamship and Trading Co., damages for dismissal was heard. Judgment was reserved. Mr. Alexis Martin appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. F. Peters, Q. C., for the defendants.

Christmas Treat.—The little folk of the Baptist mission, on Burnside road, were honored with the first visit from Santa Claus this season, on Wednesday evening. When a really neat class present game of songs, recitations, and other exercises the patron saint of children made his appearance—looking as hale and happy as if he were only a few days old. Distributed gifts for all from a well-filled tree.

Who Has Lost Coal Oil?—The city police in connection with a notorious sneak thief registered as Ah Sney, against whom numerous convictions have been recorded in the past. He had a quantity of groceries and a five-gallon tin of coal oil in his possession, which he was unable to give a satisfactory explanation of where he obtained the several articles. The police would like to hear from anyone who has missed such property.

Remembered the Little Folk.—It is the unanimous opinion of the little folk of the Protestant Orphanage that they have no truer or dearer friend than Miss Dunlop, the lady who has so kindly and so freely undertaken their kindergarten instruction for some time past. On Tuesday evening she made all preparations for a genuine Christmas treat, the gifts being well selected, and the happiness of the recipients complete.

Narrow Escape.—Mrs. Bush, wife of Engineer Bush of the five department of the Empire which has been marked by the relations of the Mother Country with the colonies during recent years. The thanks of Her Majesty's government are specially due to the ministers for the cordial manner in which they have undertaken and carried through the work of organizing and equipping the Canadian contingent.

Seakings May Travel.—The regulations regarding the admission of fur seal skin garments into the United States have been so far amended that hereafter no question as to be asked as to when the garment was bought, or whether the skins are of seals caught before December 31, 1897, or whether they were before a United States coast, that he or she does not intend to dispose of said fur seal skin in the United States, but to export them to the same to Canada, any person in the Dominion can take any seal skin garment into the Dominion, provided that they may desire, without any detention or inconvenience.

Willison Resigns.—Crown Timber Inspector Willison of the Klondike, resigned to the Canadian government his position to give up the office which he has held for some time. He was appointed to his position in the Ottawa government early in November, and as soon as he accepted the position in mining ventures, Willison resigned his position as an extended tour of some of the principal creeks of the Klondike, notably the Klondike, Klondike, Klondike, Klondike, and upon his return to Dawson he declared that he found more work being done in the Klondike than in any other streams of the district combined. "But," he said, "there is great activity on all of the creeks. Where mining is not in actual progress the preparations for it are under way."

Youthful Contributions.—Following is a list of the school children who have already contributed donations to the Friendly Help Society: Florence Vincent, Eva, Ethel, and Edith G. Wilson, M. Lucey, F. J. Wilson, John De, Anna Nite, Willie Carter, Fred Carver, David, Arthur Graham, George James Dalzell, Eddie Coates, Edith Lawrence, Joe Davidson, Maud Tompkins, Edith Brynfooson, Leonard Brynfooson, Gladys, Annie McGregor, the Gerrie Mutton, Violet Graham, Violet Cameron, Myrtle Holmes, Millie Davis, Eva Dreyfus, Arthur Graham, George Graham, Cecil Foote, James Stuart, Joe Stuart, Frank Cameron, Edith E. Willison, William Willison, Edith G. McKittrick, Jack Heyland, Two little girls, Bertie Chamer, Georgina Babington, Katie and Herman Harburger, Elaine McKicking.

New Office.—A. D. Charlton, assistant general passenger agent of the Northern Pacific, Portland, and Seattle, Seattle agent, visited Vancouver, where they established a general agency of the Northern Pacific. J. O. McMillen was appointed general agent, and A. E. Salisbury assistant. The new office will look after both the passenger and freight business of the water route. Mr. McMillen, who has been selected from among the various applicants for the position, is well known in Coast railroad circles. He has been connected with the Northern Pacific on the Coast for the past twelve years, occupying various positions. For several years he has been associated with Alex. Tilling in the Tacoma office. Mr. Salisbury has for several years been connected with the Canadian Pacific railway, both in Seattle and Vancouver.

Insurance Rates.—Instead of the fire insurance rates being increased as a result of Mr. Dwyer's report on the fire and water systems of the cities of Vancouver and Seattle, there is a possibility of them being reduced. At least, a number of the underwriters are suggesting that the rates be reduced. The fire department and the discipline, and Victoria scores high in the report on all points with the exception of the high water level. The conversation with insurance men yesterday it was learned that if the pressure was increased the rates would certainly be reduced. To do this it would be necessary to extend the 24-inch main to the lake. At present the water leaves the lake at a 12-inch main and then goes to town centers the 24-inch main and then again the smaller main. The idea was that the high court because they thought the time had come to put an end to the insistent challenges of the Nationalists.

M. Lasies, anti-Semite, who frequently interrupted the speaker, here cried: "No. To bring Victoria up to the standard fixed by the underwriters the pressure should be increased by at least 40 pounds and longer mains laid on many of the streets." The government and Water streets for example being at present supplied by 16 and 4 inch mains respectively.

Canada's Duty At Present.

Col. Prior Discusses the Sending of a Contingent to South Africa.

Lack of Patriotism in High Places and Strange Attitude of Quebec.

To the Editor of the Colonist: Sir: As it is now admitted by the Times and other leading English papers that the danger to the British Empire, by reason of the South African trouble, has reached an acute stage I feel that it is not improper for me as one of the public men of Canada to say a few words in regard to the assistance which I think we should be desirous to render to the Motherland in this struggle. I do not wish to make political capital out of this matter, because I feel that the present crisis in the history of the Empire is far and away too serious to be brought into party strife, but, however my language and motives may be misconstrued by "Little Englanders" and other small souls, I should be glad to see that my constituents and my country if I abstained from fearfully attempting to show how I think there is a serious danger to the well being, safety, and honor of Canada. In the first place let me say that I am convinced that the large majority of the members of the government at Ottawa, as well as the large majority of the Liberals of Canada, are willing and anxious that Canada should bear her share in the defence of the Empire by furnishing men and money for the South African war. But an sorry work at Cascade takes a small but influential and active minority in the cabinet that seems determined to do all the work at Cascade taking any part in or supplying any funds to the same. Sir Wilfrid Laurier when first his cabinet telegraphed news in which he mooted evidently did not think it was the right thing to do, and made all sorts of excuses, such as the law is against sending the militia out of the country. "There is no menace to Canada." "How can we do so without overwhelming evidence shown to him showed that the people of Canada, almost without exception, are in favor of sending a contingent to the men to go. I have therefore no more to question as to be asked as to when the garment was bought, or whether the skins are of seals caught before December 31, 1897, or whether they were before a United States coast, that he or she does not intend to dispose of said fur seal skin in the United States, but to export them to the same to Canada, any person in the Dominion can take any seal skin garment into the Dominion, provided that they may desire, without any detention or inconvenience."

And that is the best answer I can give to La Patrie why Canada should "interfere" in South Africa. And what to be challenged by a country that has refused rights to Britons that they themselves have granted to others. The United States, for territory has been invaded by a foe who has been preparing secretly for years for the invasion of the great British Empire, it is as much to her interest to see the Empire maintained as it is to see the Empire fall. Who, I would ask, guards our shores with her ships, who protects our commerce, who maintains our peace and security to lie down at night in peace and security knowing that none dare molest us? It is Great Britain. Absolutely nothing. Not a dollar do we pay for it. That being the case, I cannot conceive that there should be any man who can be so contemptibly small, so unutterably mean, as to grudge paying a small something to assist the Motherland in this struggle. The Motherland, I refer to Hon. J. Israel Tarte, the minister of public works. I was not at all surprised to see by his second cabinet that he does now, of being left in "splendid isolation" to face the whole world. Great Britain spends 45 per cent. of her national income in the defence of which all the colonies get equal benefit without being taxed for it. Her taxpayers for the head, Canadians are only taxed 30 cents per head. The balance we get free from Great Britain. And we are asked to contribute to the defence of the Motherland, which is growing in both wealth and resources more rapidly than the Mother Country. This is a glorious opportunity for the colonies to show the mettle of their men and their devotion to the Motherland. One hundred and thirty thousand men and will no doubt in the end send another 1,000. You, sir, in the columns of your paper suggest that the British Empire is growing in both wealth and resources more rapidly than the Mother Country. 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OGCO... COMFORTING... Nutritive... Sold... CO., Ltd. Chemists, Vancouver.

School Children Home for Christmas.

Interesting Features of the Day Before the Holidays—Winners of Competitive Drill Flag and the Governor-General's Medals.

(From Saturday's Daily Edition.)

That Britain has another generation of true-hearted Canadians growing to active manhood and womanhood, who will be ready to bear their parts when the time comes in sharing the responsibilities and dangers of the Empire, was amply evidenced at the closing of the city schools yesterday—patriotism being the keynote of the interesting exercises everywhere, and the stirring martial poetry of the nation, together with expressions of affection for the grand old flag, being important features of the programmes in all cases.

AT THE HIGH SCHOOL.

At the High School, the programme of the day, which was most satisfactorily carried out, was as follows: Song—"The Maple Leaf".... Price. Remarks of Principal Paul on the nature of the drill competition. Presentation of flag and badges; and prize for single-stick. Song—"Rie Britanna".... Address—"God Save the Queen."

The medals are the medals presented by His Excellency the Governor-General one of silver, for the pupils of the High school, won by Miss Fanny Forbes Whyte; and the other, a bronze medal, won in a competition among the pupils of the public schools in this city at the annual examination for entrance to the High school, which was won by Miss Mary Few, a pupil of the North Ward school taught by Mr. Principal McNeill.

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At the close of the dinner to Miss King, a number of appropriate and formal speeches were made by her associates, all joining in good wishes for her prosperity and her happiness in her new home.

The children of the various classes showed their respect and esteem for their teachers by presenting them with numerous Christmas gifts and cards; while the janitor and his good wife were also reminded of their own by the presents of former receiving a royal turkey and the latter several dainty pieces of chinaware.

THE SUBURBAN SCHOOLS.

Presentations to Teachers at West Victoria—Marked Improvement in Spring Ridge.

Victoria West school closed with the customary exercises on the 23rd inst. The department, the visitors being numerous and including Revs. J. P. D. Knox and D. MacLure, Mr. Beaumont Boggs, and Mr. J. H. G. Miller, and Mr. St. Clair.

NORTH WARD AND SOUTH PARK.

The light, bright and cheerful North Ward school was all in gala gear for its closing, which also took place yesterday morning, of course, holly and evergreen decorations being in evidence.

AN OPEN LETTER.

To Mayor Redfern and Alderman Beckwith, Stawart, Bryden, Cameron and Humphreys.

CENTRAL SCHOOL CLOSING.

In the Boys' and Girls' Central schools the exercises in the morning were, as in other departments, chiefly in relation to holly, berries and banners being set up in the various rooms.

YOUR PUPILS.

After the programme and the departure of the children, with cheers for the Queen, the teachers, themselves, and the pupils, were gathered in the school hall for the annual breaking-up dinner, during which Miss King was again surprised, a forty-piece china tea set being the symbol of her fellow-teachers' regard, accompanied by the following address:

At the close of the dinner to Miss King, a number of appropriate and formal speeches were made by her associates, all joining in good wishes for her prosperity and her happiness in her new home.

A Light House in Darkness.

Mysterious Failure of Light on Egg Island Will Be Investigated.

The officers and crew of the Dominion government steamer Quada will spend Christmas this year at sea, the vessel's absence from port being necessitated by the need of investigating at once conditions at Egg Island lighthouse, Queen Charlotte Sound, and the vessel left on that mission yesterday morning.

Schooner Sled Turpel Disabled in a Gale—Tug Boat Captains Change.

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THE TURPEL IN A GALE.

The sealing schooner Sled Turpel, Capt. A. McDonald, which left for the West Coast on Tuesday morning last, was blown to the southward by a heavy gale, and was obliged to return to port yesterday in a rather dilapidated condition.

LOCAL NEWS.

The Aldermanic Contest.—It is understood that endeavors are being made to induce ex-Ald. James Baker to consent to stand for North Ward at the approaching municipal election.

St. Andrew's Church Treat.

The young folk of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church in their turn had a happy treat at a visit from Santa Claus' special representative last night, that functionary distributing seasonable gifts from a well laden sack.

The Girls Are Glad.

The girls are glad in connection with the pleasing drill competition at the High school yesterday, it will please the girls to know that Capt. Olive Phillips-Wolley has expressed his intention of offering a suitable prize for a calisthenic competition somewhat on the line of his suggestion in presenting the Hayward flag.

MUNICIPAL POINTERS.

Sir: Has the corporation the authority under the Municipal Act to enter into a speculation by taking stock or shares in a work to be undertaken beyond the limits of the city, or within the limit.

Helping the Needy.—The various local charitable organizations are making the usual preparations to provide a measure of comfort and happiness for the needy ones of the city, though happily there are few cases this year really requiring attention.

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The Aldermanic Contest.—It is understood that endeavors are being made to induce ex-Ald. James Baker to consent to stand for North Ward at the approaching municipal election.

St. Andrew's Church Treat.

The young folk of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church in their turn had a happy treat at a visit from Santa Claus' special representative last night, that functionary distributing seasonable gifts from a well laden sack.

The Girls Are Glad.

The girls are glad in connection with the pleasing drill competition at the High school yesterday, it will please the girls to know that Capt. Olive Phillips-Wolley has expressed his intention of offering a suitable prize for a calisthenic competition somewhat on the line of his suggestion in presenting the Hayward flag.

MUNICIPAL POINTERS.

Sir: Has the corporation the authority under the Municipal Act to enter into a speculation by taking stock or shares in a work to be undertaken beyond the limits of the city, or within the limit.

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The various local charitable organizations are making the usual preparations to provide a measure of comfort and happiness for the needy ones of the city, though happily there are few cases this year really requiring attention.

At the close of the dinner to Miss King, a number of appropriate and formal speeches were made by her associates, all joining in good wishes for her prosperity and her happiness in her new home.

A Light House in Darkness.

Mysterious Failure of Light on Egg Island Will Be Investigated.

The officers and crew of the Dominion government steamer Quada will spend Christmas this year at sea, the vessel's absence from port being necessitated by the need of investigating at once conditions at Egg Island lighthouse, Queen Charlotte Sound, and the vessel left on that mission yesterday morning.

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Elandslaagte Told Anew.

Sad Story of the Battlefield Where British Soldiers Dearly Bought Renown.

Boer Prisoners Tell of Their Desperate Case With Death at Every Turn.

For Once There Was No Safety in Flight—Deadly Rain of Shrapnel.

London, Dec. 21.—The correspondent of the Times describing the battlefield of Elandslaagte... The battle field as it stood on Sunday conveyed sufficient proof of the severity of the fight.

On the skyline out of the table land the dead lay thickly... The white flag was already there and strange of color.

We drove back to the Boer position, a little higher where Schiel and his twenty-three men had made their last stand.

The Boer trenches were deep and casemated—triple-trenches with loopholes and machine gun guides again.

Artillery Officer's Terrible Blunder—British Nobility Heading the Volunteers.

By Associated Press. London, Dec. 22.—A correspondent of the Associated Press at Modder River, under date of December 17, describing the changes in the art of warfare, says:

It would be almost impossible to talk such a position as Magersfontein as a model of the modern battle, owing to the length of the ridge, will last six days where formerly it would only have lasted a few hours.

Another Corrupt Election. West Huron Trial Results in Unseating Minister Garrow—West Elgin Unchanged by Recount.

Toronto, Dec. 22.—(Special)—Judges Ouler and Rose delivered judgment this morning in the West Huron election case which has been repeatedly adjourned since the 10th of October.

Collided in a Fog. London, Dec. 22.—The Holland-American liner steamer Wertheim from Amsterdam yesterday for New York was in collision off the coast of the British Isles.

Ship Captain at Fault. Capetown, Dec. 21.—As a result of the inquiry into the wreck of the British transport Ismore which went ashore on the rocks in St. Helena Bay on December 3, the captain has had his certificate suspended for six months.

Meeting in New York. Enemies of the British Make Arrangements for Display of Sympathy with Boers.

New York, Dec. 22.—A pro-Boer meeting was held last night in the Morton House, which according to the Sun, was attended by "few descendants of the Dutch and Germans, many descendants of the Irish and a few plain ordinary Americans."

ITCHING, BLEEDING PILES. Mr. C. H. Merrill, proprietor Bodega Hotel, 26 Wellington street, East Toronto, says: "While living in Chicago I was in a terrible state of itching and bleeding piles. I tried several of the best physicians but was treated in vain."

Portugal is Powerless

Afraid to Stop Boer Traffic by Delagoa Bay Laid on Her Passions Should Follow.

London, Dec. 23.—The Lisbon correspondent of the Daily Mail, discussing the impotency of Portugal, says:

Portugal is undoubtedly doing her utmost to check the transit of war material for the Boers through Delagoa Bay, although Great Britain would do well to make a demand for greater watchfulness.

To Join the Boers. Berlin, Dec. 23.—Former Lieut. Brunow, who as a German army officer managed a German workman, has gone to join the Boers.

Kitchener en Route. Cairo, Dec. 21.—Gen. Kitchener on his arrival in Cairo was given an ovation by Lord Cromer, the British consul-general in Egypt, and others.

Kitchener's Successor. Cairo, Dec. 23.—Gen. Wingate succeeded Gen. Kitchener as Governor-General of South Sudan.

Too Strong For Direct Assault.

Boer Trenches Wide, Deep and Casemated—Triple-trenches with Machine Gun Guides Again.

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The Mules' Stampede.

Details at Last Received of the Night Misadventure at Nicholson's Nek.

Frightened Pack Animals Mistaken for Charging Enemy and Confusion Follows.

British Made Stand in Exposed Position but Fought Desperately Many Hours.

London, Dec. 21.—The Times correspondent gives a graphic account and explanation of the British disaster at Nicholson's Nek, where "Carleton's column consisting of six companies of the Gloucestershire Regiment and No. 20 Mountain Battery were taken prisoner."

Two hours before daylight," says the correspondent, "while the column was in motion, a pack of mules, which was about two miles ahead, was fired or a boulder rolled into the battery and column of route. The mules stampeded and easily broke away from their half asleep drivers.

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Volunteering For Africa. Military Centres in the East All Report a Rush of Applications.

Officers' Names Not Yet Announced—Cavalry Reserved For Col. Evans.

From Our Own Correspondent. Ottawa, Dec. 22.—The list of officers of the second contingent is not yet completed, and the minister makes no announcement.

The transport Montserrat arrived at New Orleans to-day and left immediately for Halifax. The mounted rifles will be armed with 240 rifles, two carbines. It is feared that not a sufficient number will be forthcoming, as nearly all the unmarried constables are in London.

Kingston, Dec. 22.—Col. Kitson left for Toronto to-day, under instructions from Ottawa to organize the cavalry force until Lieut. Col. Evans' arrival from Yukon.

Toronto, Dec. 22.—There is the greatest activity in military circles here, consequent on receipt of a despatch to prepare to receive the second Africa contingent. Nearly all the Dragoons have offered themselves.

Winnipeg, Dec. 22.—Over three hundred men have offered their services to Lieut. Col. Evans, B.O.C., for enlistment in Canada's second contingent.

Patriotism at Nelson. Fourteen Hundred Dollars Given at Concert in Aid of Mansion House Fund.

Nelson, Dec. 22.—Unbounded patriotic enthusiasm was displayed here at the smoking concert in aid of the Mansion House fund. The large opera house was packed to the doors and cheering and singing were heard throughout the progress of the long programme.

Northern Cape Colony. Boers Now Reaping Crops of Loyalist Farmers and Their Forces Largely Swelled.

Stephensport, Saturday, Dec. 16.—The Boers have been largely reinforced since Gen. Gatacre's reverse at Stormberg. The country north of that point is in the hands of the Boers, and the loyalists are being taken by the Boers, who reap the crops.

Commissioners for Canadians. Imperial Government Sends Invitations to Graduates of the Royal Military College.

From Our Own Correspondent. Ottawa, Dec. 22.—The Governor-General has received a despatch from the royal office, offering commissions in the British army to graduates of the Royal Military College not already engaged in the Imperial service, and recommended by the minister of militia. Out of 233 graduates, 102 are now in the army.

The Canadian Sentiment

Voiced by Toronto Board of Trade in Applauding Offer to Help Fight Empire's Battles

Toronto, Dec. 22.—An open meeting of the Board of Trade was held this afternoon to discuss matters relating to sending the second Canadian contingent to the Transvaal. Numerous speeches were made in hearty approval of the course taken by the Dominion government in the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, that this board desires to record its continued devotion and loyalty to the British crown and views which much favor the determination of the Dominion government to promptly despatch to the seat of war in South Africa a second contingent numbering upwards of 1,000 men.

It was resolved, that in the opinion of this board it is incumbent upon the government of Canada to strengthen the hands of Her Majesty's Imperial government in Canada of a still larger force of volunteers, to be employed in the performance of such duties as may be found most useful during the present crisis, thereby giving assistance to Canada's resolution to do her share in maintaining the national position.

Resolved, that a special committee be called to give the people of Canada through their representatives an opportunity to endorse the actions already taken by the government, and to provide for every possible contingency.

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Saved From the Lake. Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 22.—Pickard's Mather & Co., owners of the whiteboat barge No. 115 which was supposed had been lost with all on board in a great storm of early last week, to-day received a telegram from the captain of the barge saying that himself and the crew were safe. The telegram is dated Middleton, Ont.

Incidents of Tugela.

Lord Roberts' Son Met His Death in Attempt to Saw Abandoned Guns.

Which Seem to Have Fallen Into Enemy's Possession Very Shortly Afterwards.

Desperate But Hopeless Fighting of British Isolated in Retreat.

By Associated Press. London, Dec. 23.—(140 a.m.)—Beating South African despatches throw light upon the present situation at the seat of war. There is no confirmation of the report that Lord Roberts' son had been killed, and it is feared that this report is circulated by the Boers for their own purposes.

Winston Churchill, having arrived safely at Delagoa Bay, will soon be heard from regarding the condition of the Transvaal, as he must have obtained much important information.

A Capetown despatch dated Sunday, December 17, reports that Commandant Diedericks, of the Boer forces, was killed in a recent engagement, but no details are given.

Advices from Naauwpoort describe everything as quiet there, and the only fresh news from Arundel concerns the weather, which is excessively hot.

The Daily Telegraph has a special from Chieveley, dated December 16, which says: "The horses of the 14th and 60th battalions had been killed, and Lieut. Roberts, son of Lord Roberts, fell at Tugela river. It is reported that the Boers attempted with gunner volunteers to drag out the guns. Capt. Schofield, helped, by a corporal and some men."

Lieut. Roberts was hit badly by a shell. Capt. Congreve, Capt. Foster and Major Roberts brought Lieut. Roberts from the open into a little ravine, where he lay hidden from the enemy's view.

Fourteen gunners and fourteen men of the Devonshire Regiment were with Col. Bullcock when the retirement was ordered. Three men, with isolated parties of the Devonshires and Scots Fusiliers, together with some of the Queen's Own, were captured.

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Vessels in Distress.

On a Run Short of Coal and the Other Is Driven Ashore.

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 23.—The British steamer Angers, Capt. Taylor, 18 days from Hamburg for Norfolk, Va., with part of a cargo of salt, has just arrived here short of coal.

The schooner Myra drove ashore near William Gale during a gale, and her company, with the exception of her captain, abandoned her. After losing spars the vessel floated off and drifted to sea with the captain on board.

To Rafted Cananda. A Hot-Headed Fenian Writes a Senseless Letter to an Omaha Paper.

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 23.—An open letter, signed "Liberty," appeared in a paper here to-day, calling upon Fenian organizations, the Clan-na-Gael, and similar anti-British associations to prepare for an invasion of Canada.

Storm in Japan. New York, Dec. 23.—The Commercial Cable Company this evening sent the following notice: "We are advised that communication with Japan, north of Osaka, is interrupted by storm, and its restoration is uncertain."

All Well at Ladysmith.

That Was the Only Report Received from the Front Yesterday.

Report That a British Army Corps Has Disembarked at Lorenzo Marquez.

By Associated Press. London, Dec. 24.—4.45 a.m.—Beyond the statement that a telegraphic message from Ladysmith reports "All well" to Friday afternoon, with no fighting except outpost skirmishing, absolutely no news has been received of the war during the night.

On a continental despatch, however, comes the incredible rumor that a British army corps had disembarked at Lorenzo Marquez and is marching towards the Transvaal frontier.

Colling on Volunteers. London, Dec. 23.—Attorney-General Webster, Solicitor-General Finlay, and Gen. Evelyn Wood, as adjutant-general of the forces, have addressed a circular to the effect that the present position of public affairs is so critical that a greater part of regular forces will be required abroad, it becomes imperative for the purpose of home defence that the volunteers should be augmented, and that every member of the legal profession, not debarré by age or circumstance, should enrol himself as an active member of some volunteer corps.

British at Chieveley. Chieveley, Dec. 17, evening.—The British army is occupying its original camping ground. The Naval Brigade this morning fired a few shells at the Boer positions. The result is not known, but the firing is taken to show that the naval guns are able to command the Tugela bridge.

Foreign Attaches. Durban, Dec. 23.—The foreign attaches have arrived here on their way to Gen. Buller's headquarters.

Accident at Phoenix. One Man Killed and Another Injured in the Snowshoe Mine.

Greenwood, B.C., Dec. 23.—A fatal explosion occurred in the Snowshoe mine at Phoenix Camp at twelve o'clock to-day, caused by drilling into an old blast that had missed fire. The victims are John Nelson, killed, and Stanley McLeod, seriously, perhaps, fatally, injured.

Will Not Retire. Special Law Keeps Dewey on Active List During His Lifetime.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Admiral George Dewey will be 62 years of age Christmas Day, and under the ordinary process of law would be placed on the retired list on that account. The special law by which he was advanced to the head of the navy makes no provision for his retirement, and therefore he will continue on the active list, in all probability until his death.

After Kwang's Scalp. Edict Issued Offering Reward for the Reformist Dead or Alive.

Peikin, Dec. 23.—An imperial edict just issued offers special rewards for the capture of the Cantonese reformer Kwang Yu Wei, dead or alive.

Moody's Funeral. East Northfield, Mass., Dec. 23.—Yielding to pressure brought to bear by friends, the family of Dwight L. Moody today decided to defer the funeral of the late Mr. Moody until Tuesday afternoon.

Children Burned. Quincy, Ill., Dec. 23.—Five little children burned during the rehearsal of Christmas exercises at St. Francis' parochial school yesterday, died during the night, bringing the death roll up to eleven. Others are so badly burned that they may die.

Boers Chafe at Delay.

Methuen's Long Halt at Modder River Seriously Affects Their Plans.

Since His Presence Protects Kimberley British General Content to Wait.

While Enemy Run Short of Supplies and Must Leave or Force Action.

By Associated Press. London, Dec. 22.—In spite of the delay of Gen. Methuen in advancing he is regarded as largely the master of the situation and his entrenched position is believed to be unassailable.

On the other hand, in spite of their usual tactics it is considered probable that the Boers have been compelled to establish searchlight communication with Kimberley, which is believed to be still on full rations. The water in the mines is plentiful.

Reserve at Pretoria. London, Dec. 27.—The correspondent of the Daily Graphic writes from Pretoria: "The Boers are still in the hands of the British, and the British are still in the hands of the Boers."

Sortie From Ladysmith. A despatch to the Daily Ladysmith dated Friday, December 23, by telegraph, says: "Another sortie was made from Ladysmith on Friday, and destroyed one Maxim, and was killed. The Boer gunners were driven back to the Modder river."

Boer Official. A despatch from Chieveley dated December 21, says: "The Boers are still in the hands of the British, and the British are still in the hands of the Boers."

Escaped Boer. Commander Demission, turned at Elandslaagte at Simonstown, where he was seen to escape from the British. The transport Tantallon, which was captured by Gen. Buller, is now in the hands of the Boers.

Made Him Happy. Emperor William Presents Seal to Burgomaster of Berlin.

Berlin, Dec. 23.—At the ceremony of the unveiling of the monument to Elector George William, in the Siege Salles today the Emperor looked hale and hearty and had ruddy cheeks. The ceremony was brief. There were no speeches but by His Majesty at the close, stepping briskly to Herr Kirchner, the chief burgomaster of Berlin, shaking hands with him cordially and saying by his loud expected confirmation as chief burgomaster, consisting of documents with big seals attached.

England. Do they say that England's drying? The late war has not yet been forgotten. She that is Queen of a hundred lands, Soon shall our own ought at all!

Stock Exchange. New York, Dec. 26.—Over Wall Street magnates have been talking to appear before it to tell what they know of the recently circulated story of the Rapid Transit Co. which seriously affected the stock market. Nearly all of the "bulls and bears" are on the ground. The Brooklyn Rapid Transit Co. officials offer a reward of \$5,000 for information leading to the persons who circulated the story.

Lowell Arms Co. Boston, Dec. 26.—The Lowell Arms Co., one of the largest goods houses in the country, has been visited by the Globe National Bank of the city, which is in the hands of the bank. The bank is in the hands of the bank.

Fenian Ghost Story. Washington, Dec. 26.—A Fenian ghost story is being told in the streets of the city. The Fenian ghost is said to be seen in the streets of the city.

For love of liberty they come. For all the thousand links that bind their hearts to that dear Mother Land— Their cheers come echoing down the wind.

England, for you they gave their lives: For you they shed their hearts' best blood! But thousands more are pressing on From the fire and breast the food.

England, look up, white sons like these: From furthest lands across the seas They speed unto the battle ground.

On every side—she shall not fall! On every side—she shall not fall!

Forty Seco

By Modder

And T

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Story of Strong Resistor Directed by European

Indian Picket R

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