

The Evening News

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THE SIEGE RAISED

Buller's Troops Relieve General White at Ladysmith.

CITY ENTERED LAST NIGHT

Dundonald's Regiments Welcomed With Great Joy.

CHEERING CROWDS IN LONDON

The Queen Cables Congratulations. Flags Displayed Throughout the English Capital—British Forces Now Moving from Pieter's Station to Netherporpe—Boer Positions in the Vicinity of the Besieged Town Found Deserted—No Demonstration Made by the Burghers.

LONDON, March 1.—The beleaguered city of Ladysmith has been relieved and all England is today rejoicing. The dependency of yesterday occasioned by General Buller's somewhat enigmatic despatch, has been turned into enthusiasm. General Buller's cable conveying the welcome news follows:

"Ladysmith Headquarters, March 1—(9:45 a. m.)—General Dundonald, with the Natal Carbineers and a composite regiment, entered Ladysmith last night.

"The country between me and Ladysmith is reported clear of the enemy. I am moving on Netherporpe.

"BULLER."

The relief of the garrison commanded by General Buller, after the long siege, caused more rejoicing than the surrender of General Cronje. It was not expected for at least two days, and the previous unfounded reports of the relief of the place caused doubt to be expressed at first as to the genuineness of the story.

Flags are flying everywhere in London today, the Marlborough House, the home of the Prince of Wales, setting the example. St. Paul's bells will ring this evening. About 11 o'clock immense crowds gathered around the Mansion House and in other places, cheering and singing the national anthem.

The Queen has cabled her congratulations to General Buller and White. Windsor is covered with flags and there is the utmost enthusiasm at the barracks of the Grenadier Guards.

The latest despatch from Ladysmith is



Ladysmith and Its Surroundings.

dated on Wednesday. It states that the garrison passed Majuba Day expecting an attack. During the evening a false alarm was given. There was heavy firing for some hours, but no assault. The message ends, "Anxious watching is undermining the nerves of many."

Mafeking endured a severe and protracted assault on Saturday and Sunday. The Boers were driven off with a loss of forty. The British losses were two killed and three wounded.

A despatch from Colenso to the "Central News," says: "A portion of the force of General Buller, headed by Gen. Lord Dundonald's Horse, the full force of Natal Carbineers, and seven companies of other regiments, among them some Dublin Fusiliers and the Lancashire, has reached Ladysmith and raised the siege.

The men were dressing for parade when the news was received. They rushed out of the barracks half dressed, and shouted themselves hoarse.

Three British officers and nine soldiers, prisoners in the larger during the bombardment, were all provided with deep shelter holes and kindly treated. The Boers are reported in full force to the southwest.



GENERAL BULLER.

if it became necessary. Dundonald reports that when the Lancashire charged on Pieter's Hill Tuesday they overtook Boers flying from the trenches and beyond them. Sixteen of the fleeing men were killed and twenty-three wounded.

"The Boers, after the capture of Pieter's Hill on Tuesday by General Barton, with the Dublin Fusiliers and two battalions of the Sixth Brigade, seemed to be fading away. There was no general retiring movement observable, but they simply disappeared as the British advanced."

"Grobler's Kloof was abandoned, and Ladysmith pushed forward his men the road seemed to be clear.

"Lord Dundonald, with his mounted troops, was sent on a scouting expedition to the west on Tuesday night, and reconnoitred all that night. On Wednesday morning he reported that he could reach Ladysmith, and the Natal Carbineers, with several Fusiliers and Lancashire, with several other companies, were placed under his command. They had little difficulty in making their way through the ravines and around the hills to the southwest of the city, and last evening crossed the plain, following the railroad track, and entered the city.

"Their arrival was hailed with frantic joy by the besieged. At first it was thought they were the advance of Buller's main force, but this was not so. Buller, according to the relieving force, is rapidly moving north along the railroad from Pieter's Station, and is expected to occupy Netherporpe, four miles south of Ladysmith by tonight. It is expected that Buller's main column will reach Ladysmith tonight or tomorrow.

"The Boers have not made any demonstration from Bulwana this morning, and it is doubtful if they are aware of the entrance of Dundonald into Ladysmith. They unquestionably have retired in great numbers from the country surrounding Ladysmith, for, according to Dundonald's reports, hills that had been occupied by the enemy to the southwest were bare of Boers yesterday. Dundonald came first in line. The garrison at Ladysmith was in desperate straits for water fit to drink, and fever of various kinds was making sad havoc among the men."

The siege of Ladysmith practically began on October 29, 1899, when the British forces under General Buller were compelled to fall back from Dundee and Colenso although the town was not cut off from all communication until November 24. In their retreat to Ladysmith the British fought numerous engagements with the Boers, suffering heavy losses in officers and men. Between October 25 and November 2 a severe fighting occurred on the outskirts of the city following British sorties. The Boers being victorious in every engagement and slowly driving the English to seek refuge behind their entrenchments. Since November 24 until last night the investment of the city has been complete, the bombardment by the Boer batteries on the surrounding hills being almost incessant.

General Buller began his advance for the relief of the beleaguered garrison late in November and had to fight every inch of the ground for many miles before the besieged city was reached. Four times he crossed the Tugela River and four times he was driven back.

The forces under General Buller at the beginning of the siege are believed to have numbered about 8,000. Since then many have been killed in battle or have succumbed to disease. The resident population of Ladysmith is about 3,600, but this was largely increased by refugees swarming into the town before the advance of the Boer army.

EXCITEMENT AT ABERDEEN.

Officers Rush from the Barracks Shouting With Joy.

ABERDEEN, March 1.—The men in the barracks here were madly excited when they heard that their comrades at Ladysmith—the Second Gordon Highlanders—had been relieved.

The men were dressing for parade when the news was received. They rushed out of the barracks half dressed, and shouted themselves hoarse.

Three British officers and nine soldiers, prisoners in the larger during the bombardment, were all provided with deep shelter holes and kindly treated. The Boers are reported in full force to the southwest.

SCENES IN CRONJE'S LAAGER.

The Boers Thankful at Having Escaped Death.

PAARDEBERG, Feb. 27.—(Via Modder River, Feb. 28, 7:55 p. m.)—Among the Boer commanders who were taken prisoners were commandants J. Marthinus, H. West, and Verster; field cornets, J. Snyman, J. H. Boshuis, J. H. Bosman, W. L. Lemmer, and J. H. Badenhorst; Adjutants, J. S. Marce and J. A. Botha; War Commissioner Arons and Acting Field Cornets P. V. Devillers and G. J. Dupless. The biggest commandos that surrendered were the Potchefstroom, of 700 men, and the Bloemfontein, of 500 men.

Before the arrival of the guard to remove the prisoners, the laager presented a pitiable sight. The Boers were lying or sitting in groups. Their faces were haggard, worn, and nearly all were crying out for a drop of spirits. The laager had been practically destroyed. Nearly all the Free Staters spoke English and their principal idea seemed to be thankfulness for their present deliverance.

One of them, shaking his fist in the direction of General Cronje, said:

"Damn you, you hard man. You deserve to be shot."

Several of the prisoners were youths of sixteen and eighteen. There was a strange scene when the prisoners crossed the river. It looked more like a frolic than warfare. The prisoners took their trunks off, and many splashed water on each other and cracked jokes. Others, with grim faces, looked with disfavor on this careless merriment. The Boer rifles that were surrendered were uninjured.

The prisoners look more like an irregular herd than soldiers. There are many grey-bearded men and beardless boys among them. They appear to be well fed, but tired. They carry a rough roll like that used by farm servants in carrying effects when they are changing situations. General Cronje and about a dozen others alone looked like men of position. Even the uniformed Orange Free State Artillerists were ragged.

All the prisoners accepted their position complacently. General Cronje sat silently smoking under the trees near headquarters. The others were arranged in rows on the yeld according to their commands. About fifty women and children traveled in their own Cape carts.

A correspondent tramped out on the yeld and saw some British soldiers removing the Boer sick on stretchers. The correspondent did not see a single wagon intact anywhere. Most of them were half-burned. Meats and potatoes were scattered about old clothes, trunks, and cooking utensils.

There were thousands of rounds of Mauser and Martini-Henry cartridges, but there was scarcely any artillery ammunition. Only four Krupp 12-pounders, one Maxim, and one Vickers-Maxim were found. The positions south of the river were protected with remarkable trenches that looked like split dum-bells. They were banked with sandbags waist high and the ends were deep and overhanging.

There were many bags filled with flour, bread, and cartridges. Probably not more than three persons lived in each trench. General Cronje's force numbered 4,100 men. The food in the laager was very scarce and most of what remained was putrid.

A two hours' inspection of the Boer laager was nauseating. It is marvelous how anyone could remain ten days there among decomposed horses and the entrails of cattle.

The casualty list received from General Otis on Tuesday contains deaths which occurred from two to four months ago. Fred D. Day, of Company H, Thirty-sixth Infantry, died January 1, but his death was only reported on Tuesday. A number of deaths, which occurred in January, and the first two weeks in February were contained in the latest casualty list.

Three bulletins were received from General Otis today. One gives a list of casualties; another the receipts of Manila products from recently opened ports, and the third tells of the rescue of Spanish and American prisoners.

The bulletin concerning commerce says: "Received Manila since recent opening islands and ports, 12,000 tons hemp, 70,000 bales tobacco, large shipments abroad soon."

The return of prisoners is chronicled in the following despatch: "Arrived today by Government transport from east coast Tayabas Province, 8 American and 410 Spanish soldiers, recent prisoners in hands of insurgents; also 2 American citizens and 17 Spanish friars."

The report regarding the rescue of prisoners is incomplete, none of the names of the Americans rescued being given.

The casualty list, like all of the lists recently received, contains the names of men killed nearly two months ago. Several of them met death on January 9 and 12. The list contains the report of a man being wounded on December 4. A list of five or six men wounded at San Francisco, Batangas, on the 18th of January is given, though no account of any engagement at that point has ever been furnished.

The report also contains a list of men wounded at various points during the past few weeks, but no accounts of the fights in which they were engaged have been received by the War Department.

AGONICILLO'S UGLY THREAT.

An Intimation That American Prisoners May Be Shot.

PARIS, March 1.—Agoncillo, in charge of the Philippine junta here, made an ugly threat against the United States last night. He said: "Our American prisoners, now number forty-nine. What would the Yankee say if, in reply to President McKinley's recent manifesto, declaring the war in the archipelago terminated, we were to have our American prisoners shot as a means of showing that the war is not terminated?"

"On the contrary, the war will be continued with more fury than ever. Independence or death is the slogan of 60,000 men who make up the army of patriots. I have information of the complete rout of the American army at San Vomas and Batangas by the Philippines under General Matvar."

OTIS MAY BE RECALLED

War Officials Dissatisfied With His Dilatory Policy.

Rumors That He Will Soon Be Superseded in the Philippines—MacArthur or Wheaton Likely to Succeed Him—Irritation Over Long Delays in Forwarding Reports of Deaths.

The continued silence of General Otis and the apparent cessation of operations against the insurgents may result, it is said in Army circles, in his being recalled, and a younger and abler man, probably Brig. Gen. Arthur MacArthur, or Brig. Gen. Lloyd Wheaton, being given command of the Army in the Philippines.

The President, it is said, has for some time desired to replace General Otis, but has hesitated for political reasons, it being pointed out that the change of command of the Army in the Far East would be an admission that the Administration had erred in placing an incompetent general in charge, and that had a more able officer been in command the work of quelling the insurrection might have been prosecuted with greater vigor, and the army accomplished.

The press despatches announcing that General Otis' health is failing, it is stated, will give the President the opportunity to recall General Otis, with the announcement that General Cronje has been put down. Otis will come home for a long rest, and probably be sent to the command of the Department of the Lakes, with headquarters at Chicago. This change will be made, it is said, within the next few days, as Major Gen. Wesley Merritt, in charge of the Department of the East, will retire on account of age in June, and will be succeeded by Major Gen. John R. Brooke. General Otis, being the ranking brigadier general, will probably be made a major general, and called home.

The Department of the Lakes has been practically vacant since the retirement of General Anderson in January, the duties of the office being performed by General Wade, who commands the Department of Dakota. General Brooke has been in Washington since his return from Cuba in January, and it is said will not be sent to Chicago, but will wait until General Merritt returns from the East.

The negligence of General Otis in his reports to the War Department was strongly shown, said an Army officer today, in the list of casualties which Secretary Root Tuesday. One of the most striking features of his report was the announcement of the death of William E. Trace, of Company H, Thirty-fourth Infantry, from an accident which occurred on November 7. The long delay in reporting his death is considered by Army officers an indication that the military machinery in the Philippines is not working smoothly.

Secretary Root, it is said, has not been satisfied with the reports of casualties, and only a few days ago he issued an order directing that reports of the death of soldiers killed report up to the death of their men.

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OTIS' LIST OF CASUALTIES.

Soldiers Killed and Wounded in the Philippines. General Otis called the War Department today the following list of casualties:

Manila, March 1, 1900.

CENTRAL AMERICAN NEWS

The Maritime Canal Question at the Bottom of the Trouble.

In spite of official details from the Governments concerned information reaching the State Department shows that there is a state of political unrest prevailing in Nicaragua and Costa Rica, and the advice of the Department show that the maritime canal question is the main issue involved. Territorial matters are supposed to be at the bottom of the reported dissatisfactions.

Although the Nicaraguan authorities have asserted that there is no issue over the area formerly owned by Costa Rica and now belonging to Nicaragua through which the proposed canal will pass the information received here indicates that this very matter is likely to give rise to trouble between the two countries.

All the State Department's advice on the subject disagree with the assurances given officially to it last Friday by the Nicaraguan and Costa Rican diplomatic representatives here that there was no danger of a conflict between the two countries. This Government is anxious to prevent a war in Central America and it is understood that steps have been taken to bring Nicaragua and Costa Rica to a better understanding.

Meanwhile the Nicaraguan Government is endeavoring to adjust by arbitration the complications which have resulted from the forfeiture of the Maritime Canal Company's concession and the granting of a new concession to construct a canal to the Pacific. Syndicates of local capitalists in the State Department are that the arbitrators to adjust the differences between the two companies have not been selected and the method and scope of the arbitration have not been determined.

TROUBLE FOR COSTA RICA.

A Disgruntled Native Attempts to Arouse Nicaraguans.

NEW YORK, March 1.—The following explanation was given today as to the origin of the reports of a probable conflict between the Republics of Nicaragua and Costa Rica:

"Two years ago Federico Mora, a Costa Rican, was arrested here on the charge of counterfeiting bank notes of the Government of Costa Rica and Colombia. He was convicted and sentenced to a term of two years in Sing Sing. He was released four months ago, but was immediately rearrested on another charge of a similar nature. Bail to the amount of \$3,000 was furnished for him. Now comes the news from Nicaragua that he has escaped to that country and is responsible for the reports of the probable outbreak of hostilities between Nicaragua and Costa Rica."

Mora has always charged that his conviction was brought about through the machinations of the Costa Rican Government, which, he said, desired it on account of his friendship to President Santos Zelaya of Nicaragua. It is even hinted that it was the latter who supplied the bail for him. Mora has issued a proclamation in which he says the treatment accorded prisoners at Sing Sing is worse than that accorded during the days of the Spanish institution, and that his conviction was the result of a scheme concocted by President Rafael Iglesias, of Costa Rica, because he was a strong candidate for the presidency."

The records of the Secret Service Bureau show that Mora, with two men and a woman were arrested at New York on a feeing of \$1,000,000 in bank notes, and all except the woman, who turned state's evidence, were convicted. Mora asserts that he is the victim of persecution at the hands of his Government, and has vowed to be revenged. He has surrounded himself with Costa Rican exiles in Nicaragua and threatens to invade Costa Rica and start a revolution for the purpose of deposing President Iglesias.

Consul General Dr. Juan J. Ulloa, of Costa Rica, said today that he has received private advices confirming the reports of the menacing attitude of Mora. He said that the Government had ordered troops to the border to prevent any attempted invasion by Ulloa has added that the claims of Mora are ridiculous, and that the people in Costa Rica will pay no heed to him.

THE DAY IN THE HOUSE.

Refusal to Consider an Alabama Contested Election Case.

After the transaction of some routine business, in the House today Mr. Mann called up the report of the Committee on Elections, No. 1, on the contested election case of W. F. Aldrich vs. G. A. Robbins, from the Fourth district of Alabama, the committee recommending the seating of the contestant, Aldrich, successfully contested Robbins' election in the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Congresses.

Failing to get a postponement of the case, on account of the absence of Mr. Fox, a member of the committee, Mr. Bartlett raised the question of consideration.

The House refused by a vote of 158 to 142 to consider the case. The result was effected by the absence of a number of Republicans and the adverse votes of H. C. Smith, and Mr. Mondell. Mr. Mann changed his vote to move a reconsideration, which he did.

Mr. Bartlett of Georgia—I make the point of order that the vote could not be reconsidered. Speaker Henderson—the point is well taken, and the Chair orders the call of committees.

The clerk called Committee on Elections, No. 1, when Mr. Mann said that if in order he would call up the case of Aldrich versus Robbins. Mr. Richardson made the point that that matter had just been rejected by the House and that it could not be taken up again today.

The Speaker said the point of order was not well taken, but the case could not be taken up under call of committees without express order of the committee to call it up then.

Mr. Weeks of Michigan for Elections Committee No. 2 gave notice that on Tuesday next he would call up the contested election case of Wise vs. Young from the Second district of Virginia.

Some time was spent in an effort to secure consent to make Mr. Lord's bill to amend the law relating to second-class mail matter, the special order for three days beginning March 29, in the course of which it was asserted that the Committee on Rules would report an order for the consideration of the Nicaragua Canal bill, March 12. The Lord bill was made the special order for March 30.

At 2:30 the House adjourned until tomorrow.

PROTEST AGAINST SMOKE.

New York Citizens Before the House Committee on Commerce.

A delegation of New York citizens, representing commercial and navigation interests, and the masters and pilots, was before the House Committee on Commerce yesterday to advocate the bill of Representative Muller providing for the diminution of the fumes and smoke arising from the factories along the Erie river, in New York Harbor. The committee unanimously agreed to report the bill favorably.

The delegation included Sidney F. Rawson, Erastus Wiman, County Engineer Merriam, Captain Dow, of the Pilot Association, and Messrs. Keiff and Pentlison, of the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce.

81.25 to Baltimore and Re-81.25

turn via Pennsylvania Railroad. Tickets on sale Saturday and Sunday, March 3 and 4, good to return until Monday, March 5. All trains except Congressional limited.

THE PORTO RICAN POLICY

Republicans Frightened by the Passage of the Tariff Bill.

Generally Admitted by the Leaders at Both Ends of the Capitol that a Serious Blunder Has Been Made. Democrats Elated Over the Issue Raised by Political Opponents.

Plainly, the Republicans at both ends of the Capitol this morning were feeling uncertain, if not actually uneasy, as to the political effect of the passage of the Porto Rican Tariff Bill.

It is regarded as significant of their state of mind that some of them is yet willing to talk for publication on the only phase of the issue involved, which now is strictly political since the rubicon has been crossed by the bill being forced through the House under the party lash.

The general feeling probably was expressed in a brief colloquy of a confidential nature between two Republican House members from the West this morning in the presence of a Times reporter. It is pertinent to remark that both members voted for the bill.

"I am afraid we did a bad piece of business yesterday," said one member.

"Yes," assented the other, with a tone of fear in his voice, "I am afraid we did."

"You must not forget that I warned you of the danger," the first member observed.

"That's so," replied his companion, in misery, "but I notice that you did not heed your own warning."

"I understand that most of the big Republican papers came out this morning with derogatory editorials on the subject," the first member remarked.

"That's bad," suggested the second member. "But, then, the press will be all right by the time the campaign opens, and will better understand the subject."

"I hope so," was the only remark of the first member.

The foregoing is not a faithful colloquy. It is as nearly an accurate report of the actual occurrence as the reporter's memory can make. The two members quoted are of national reputation and their voices usually are listened to respectfully in Republican circles.

Naturally the Democrats of both the Senate and House are justly over the prospect of a sweeping victory in November, which were ushered in with the passage of the Porto Rican bill. Gladly do they accept the issues the bill precipitates. Some of the more enthusiastic Democratic leaders declare that they could go to the country today on these issues in the perfect confidence of the most complete triumph in the history of American politics.

They conceive that the issues as made up exactly endorse the ringing Democratic slogan of "The Republic against the Republic." That the issues are essentially a repudiation against imperialism, is also and so favors for the expansion of our commerce in the insular possessions.

The House Porto Rican bill was reported to the Senate this morning and the Senate Foraker's committee. It is generally believed that it will be routed through the committee with all possible speed, with an amendment putting the tariff back to the original figure of 25 per cent. The Republican leaders concede that the amount of percentage is of no practical importance. So do the Democratic leaders. The principle involved, it is acknowledged, is one that rises higher than all of the money that could be piled up—than all of the revenues that could be wrung from the starving Porto Ricans. The Democratic leaders in the Senate are expected to fully develop the new issues before the parties when the bill is reported from Senator Foraker's committee and the debate broadens under the liberal rules of the Senate.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

Mr. Clay Speaks Against the Retention of the F. Uppines. In the Senate today a bill reported from the Commerce Committee extending the time for the completion of the bridge over the Missouri River at Yankton, S. Dak., was passed.

On motion of Mr. Aldrich it was agreed that a vote on the conference report on the Financial bill should be taken at 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon.

The House bill on temporarily provide revenues for the relief of the island of Porto Rico was received from the House and referred to the Committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico.

Mr. Clay addressed the Senate in opposition to the retention of the Philippine Islands. He quoted some remarks of Mr. Foraker when the Paris Treaty was under discussion to the effect that the President was not in favor of retaining those islands and that it was the purpose of the Administration not to exercise permanent dominion over them.

He also quoted from remarks of Mr. Lodge to the same effect, and said that seven out of the nine speeches made in executive session in favor of the ratification of the treaty to the effect that as soon as the authority of Spain was ended it would be the duty of Congress to legislate for the independence and self-government of the Philippine Islands.

At the close of Mr. Clay's speech the Hawaiian bill was taken up—the pending question being on Mr. Teller's amendment in relation to the judiciary of the Territory.

Mr. Morgan continued his speech begun yesterday against the amendment and generally against the bill.

For the Comptroller General.

The Secretary of War sent to the House Committee on Military Affairs this afternoon, through Comptroller General Weston, a bill providing for an increase of six officers in the Comptroller General's department. The officers are a colonel, lieutenant colonel, and four captains.

General McNulta's Successor.

CHICAGO, March 1.—Edwin A. Potter, President of the American Trust and Savings Bank, was yesterday selected to succeed the late Gen. John McNulta, as Receiver for the National Bank of Illinois. The selection was the result of a conference between Comptroller of the Currency Charles C. Dawes and the persons most deeply interested in the receivership. Mr. Potter accepted the appointment and began his new duties this morning. Mr. Potter is also placed at the head of the Calumet Electric Street Railway as a result of the appointment.

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