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Weekly Clarion-Ledger.

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BOERS AGAIN VICTORS

Defeat General Buller in His Attempt to Cross Tugela River With Great Loss.

ENGLAND STUNNED BY THE NEWS.

Terrible Scenes Witnessed at the War Office in London—Britian Determined to Retrieve Disaster.

London, Dec. 16—Some terrible scenes were witnessed at the war office this morning. The British public is simply overwhelmed at the news of the disaster that has been met with by General Sir Redvers Buller. Following so close upon the reverses sustained by Generals Gatacre and Methuen, the blow is a numbing one and it is hard for the public to realize that it can really be true.

The war office is filled with huge crowds of anxious, eager and in many instances, weeping men and women. Al of these have relatives and dear friends at the front and the suspense they are compelled to endure as to their fate, in the absence of full details, is painful in its intensity. The varying emotions of hope and despair that alternate in the faces of some is evidence of the intense and anxious feeling that is endured, to a greater or less degree, by all. The scene is truly pathetic.

Up to noon, however, no official dispatch had been given out by the war department, and consequently nothing is yet known of the extent of the British losses. It is not even known how many lives were lost in this latest of the British chapter of disasters.

In spite of the disasters, however, the one dominant note of the press and public conversation is grim determination to retrieve the disasters by the sending of more troops to South Africa. Never was there a more unanimous call for the prosecution of the war to the bitter end.

General Buller's defeat is the sole topic of conversation today. In all public places, at the clubs and at the homes the reverse to the British arms is the absorbing subject.

The opinion, however, is that this is no time for criticism and that every possible means must be taken to counteract the disaster. To this end the government will accept all of the help the colonies will offer. More use will also be made of the Cape Colony loyalists and of the British subjects that were expelled from the Transvaal at the beginning of the war. The government will also utilize the services of volunteers from the militia, in order that every regular possible may be sent to the front.

General Buller's defeat occurred Friday in an attempt to force a passage over the Tugela river. The attempt was made in two places, about two miles apart, in each instance the Boers were found in numbers and at once opened a hot fire that drove the British back. The British gunners were driven from their guns by the murderous volleys that met them and were compelled to abandon their guns, eleven of which were captured by the Boers. The casualties, which were undoubtedly very large, have not yet been reported.

A RUMOR.

London, Dec. 16—The report is current on the Stock Exchange that General Buller has succeeded in recapturing ten of the guns taken from him by the Boers. There is no confirmation of the report, but stocks have improved somewhat on the strength of it.

THE BRITISH LOSS.

Pretoria, Dec. 16—The Boer intelligence office at Magersfontein reports that in its opinion the English camp will be abandoned and that the entire force will retire.

The British loss was so great that the ambulances were unable to attend to the wounded.

ON THE EXCHANGE.

London, Dec. 16—Anger as the sentiment of the nation was reflected on the stock exchange this morning where there was a panicky feeling that resulted in the drop of consols one point, while Africans plunged downwards to six points.

The apparently indefinite continuance of the war threatens a scarcity of gold, the effects of which promise to be serious. In anticipation of this the Bank of England expects to secure $5,000,000 in Australia, and $100,000,000 in the United States. The Bank of France refuses to furnish any gold.

NATIVES RESTLESS.

Cape Town, Dec. 15—(Delayed)—The British consul at Delagoa Bay has telegraphed to Sir Alfred Milner that the Transvaal government intends shortly to expel all British subjects from the South African republic, and asks Sir Alfred for funds for the needy exiles. Sir Alfred Milner grants for the purpose one thousand pounds from the Mansion house fund.

The natives in Tembuland are growing restless and unless they are quieted by a speedy British success the authorities fear that the position will become critical.

The colonial Boers on the borders are also excited over the Boer successes.

THE CENSORUS PENCIL.

London, Dec. 18—The first press dispatch relating to the Tugela river fight in which Gen. Buller was repulsed, has arrived, bearing the marks of the censor's pencil.

It is a colorless and inadequate record of certain military facts. Whether this is because of the censorship or otherwise the dispatch does not convey even the fact that there was a British reverse. It is full of vague assumptions as to the number of Boer losses but contains no real news additional to Gen. Buller's official report.

There is unbounded enthusiasm and activity at the headquarters of the volunteers this morning. Corps commanders are utterly inadequate for the thousands who offer to do service in South Africa. Half of the Honorable Artillery has exiled at the war department and eagerly offered its services to go to the front. Three hundred artillery volunteers presented themselves at Edinburgh before 11 o'clock.

The east coast cable between Lorenzo Marquez and Mozambique is interrupted in consequence of the tornado at Mozambique, where houses were blown down and a number of ships in the harbor wrecked. The huge waves threw the steamship Warshed on the beach.

A SERIOUS SITUATION

London, Dec. 18—Regarding the appointment of Baron Roberts to the command of the British forces in South Africa, it is semi-officially stated that no reflection on General Buller is intended, as the number of troops in South Africa will be increased and that in consequence an officer of higher rank would naturally be appointed to the supreme command.

Despite the plausibility of the argument, however, everybody recognizes the fact that this is not the whole truth.

The prodigious exertions which the government is preparing to make indicates that Lord Salisbury and his associates see the extreme gravity of the situation. It is also probable that the members of the cabinet remember the peril of a possible rising of the Kafirs. Unpleasant rumors that they are restless are already current. Such an outbreak would be infinitely more serious than a rebellion of the Dutch in Cape Colony.

Lord Kitchener, who is to be General Robert's chief of staff, will leave Dunrun at once and will arrive here Friday en route to South Africa.

THE BOERS ACTIVE.

Modder River, Dec. 18—The Boers continue to be very active. On Saturday they succeeded in blowing up the railway two miles north of the British camp.

WAR NEWS SCARCE.

London, Dec. 19—The eagerness of the public for news from the seat of war in South Africa is responsible for many rumors, many of which have no foundation. The recent excitement caused by the British reverses has subsided to a great extent, and is replaced by a determination to retrieve the disasters to the British arms.

There is much anxiety, however, to learn the true situation at the front, as it is feared in many quarters that one or more of the beleaguered towns may be forced to capitulate to the Boers before help can now reach them.

One of the rumors that has gained extensive circulation is that Buller with his forces has crossed the Tugela river. The war office, however, discredits the report, saying that it is not consistent with the official information previously received.

CHIEF KHAMA.

London, Dec. 19—A letter to the Times says that the Chief Khama is behaving splendidly, and that he has twelve hundred men out patrolling and scouting.

The letter states that Chief Khama says that he regrets the anxiety that is prevailing concerning the English women, and that they will not be harmed while he and his men are alive to protect them.

The chief says that he is grateful to the English for the many years of protection they have given him.

LIVE STOCK RAISERS.

Plans on an Elaborate Scale Making For a Big Convention.

Fort Worth, Texas, Dec. 19—Plans on an elaborate scale are being made for the big convention of live stock raisers and dealers to be held in this city early next month.

The occasion will be the annual meeting of the National Live Stock Association, which was organized in Denver two years ago, and which recently absorbed the American Live Stock Association, composed of thirteen other associations of breeders and feeders located in the middle and eastern states.

Secretary Charles F. Martin is in daily receipt of letters indicating that the attendance from all sections of the country will make the gathering the largest of its kind ever held.

All of the leading railroads of the west and southwest have granted rebates on which will largely increase the attendance from Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Arizona.

MAN SHEDS HIS SKIN.

Strange Case of O. S. Buskirk Mystifies Physicians.

St. Joseph, Mo., Dec. 19—O. S. Buskirk, a farmhand, 48 years old, was sent to the county farm. Buskirk is suffering from a strange disease, which mystifies physicians.

Four times during the past year Buskirk has shed his skin and now he has a throat trouble from which he may never recover. He has been employed during the last few days on the farm of Isaac Miller, near this city. Mills went before the court today and asked to have him sent to the poor farm.

For many years Buskirk has been shedding his skin once a year, but this year it came off four times. It slipped off his hands and arms, leaving the flesh underneath as that of a baby. For several days after he sheds his skin Buskirk is unable to work on account of his hands and feet being tender, but when that difficulty has been overcome he appears to be all right.

THE STOCK MARKET.

A Stronger Feeling Marked the Opening Prices.

Wall Street, Dec. 19—There was a stronger feeling at the opening of the stock market this morning and prices were better. The feeling in the London market helped the market here, though for a time great excitement prevailed.

Extensive buying orders are reported and all issues have advanced largely. Metropolitan Tobacco and New York Central are up five points.

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY.

Heart-rending Scenes That Occurred at the Burning of Tenement Houses in New York.

SEVERAL CHARRED BODIES FOUND.

Mother and Child Burned in an Upper Story —Woman and a Little Girl Carried Out But Will Die.

New York, Dec. 19—Two large tenement buildings in Harlem were burned early this morning. The flames spread with great rapidity and within a few minutes of discovery the fire was hot and fierce.

Some of the scenes caused by the disaster were heart-rending, and in the midst of horror and deep pity for unfortunate victims were felt by the spectators of the burning.

Five charred and blackened bodies were found on the upper floors of the buildings. Four women and one little girl, all of whom were horribly burned were carried out alive, their pitiful groans and cries bringing tears to many eyes. It is not believed that any of these will live.

Only a few hours earlier flames had destroyed another tenement house located on Tenth Avenue, in the ruins of which the charred remains of a mother and child were found. They had been overcome by suffication and burned.

TO OPEN INDIAN LANDS.

Senator Chilton's Bill Causes a Rush to the Border.

Perry, Ok., Dec. 19—The introduction by Senator Horace Chilton of Texas of a bill to open the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Indian reservation has caused considerable excitement among the land boomers, hundreds of whom are already camping on the edges of these reservations, ready to run the homes in the new country.

Another reason for the unusual rush of landseekers is that the Wichita mountains, whose ranges pass entirely through these Indian reservations, are reported to be rich with gold.

These lands comprise a large tract lying between the southwestern portion of Oklahoma and the state of Texas. The country is very fertile, well adopted to the growing of wheat, oats, corn, cotton and stock raising.

It is understood that the cattlemen, who have a considerable portion of these lands leased for grazing cattle, will fight Senator Chilton's bill.

THE PUGILISTIC RING.

Ruhlin and Conroy Will Fight For Twenty Rounds.

New York, Dec. 19—The ring followers are expecting to see some hard hitting tonight at the Broadway Athletic Club, when Gus Ruhlin, the Akron Giant, and "Stockings" Conroy, the big Syracuse fighter, will mix up in a twenty-round bout.

This will be the first meeting of heavyweights in this city since the Sharkey-Jeffries contest, and as a consequence unusual interest is manifested in it by the sporting fraternity.

While Ruhlin appears to be the favorite in what betting there is, the admirers of the Syracuse man assert their confidence in his ability to win the decision and the long end of the purse. Both men are said to be in fine fettle for the contest.

EVADING REVENUE LAW.

Banks Find a Plan to Save Their Depositors Money.

Washington, Dec. 19—The banks have found a plan to save their depositors considerable money in revenue stamps by furnishing them with blank receipts, which are used in lieu of checks. Of course, the depositor, in order to get the benefit of the receipt, has to present it in person, for it is non-negotiable and cannot be indorsed on the back like a check. The latter instrument of commercial exchange must still be employed for transactions which necessitate long distance communications and the maker of the check has to pay the government the usual 2 cents war tax. The new receipt, according to Washington bankers, has become very popular during the few days it has been on trial.

GIRLS ACT AS CHURCH USHERS.

Pastor Adopts Novel Method to Attract Young Men to Services.

Atlanta, Dec. 19—An absolutely unique scene was witnessed in the Temple Baptist church, when three pretty young women supplanted the young men ushers and escorted the astonished members of the congregation to their usual seats. The Temple church, of which Rev. A. C. Ward is pastor, is one of the most prominent in the city. The congregation has just erected a handsome edifice, which is usually well filled with the fashionable people. Of late the young men of the church have shown a disposition to absent themselves from morning services and Mr. Ward adopted this method of increasing attendance. It was eminently successful.

GALLANT TOM BRUMBY.

Succumbs To Typhoid Fever at the National Capital.

Washington, Dec. 18—The death of gallant Lieutenant Tom Brumby, flag lieutenant of Admiral Dewey at Manila, has caused a general feeling of sorrow and sadness.

The death of the brave Southerner occurred at the Garfield Hospital where he had been lying ill for several days with typhoid fever.

Lieutenant Brumby was 44 years old and unmarried. He was appointed a naval cadet from Georgia, entering the service on the 29th of September, 1775

Practically all the time during the last two years he has been with Admiral Dewey.

The body will be taken to Georgia for interment.

LATEST TELEGRAPH NEWS.

Gist of Happenings Caught Fresh From the Wire.

Canada will send a second contingent to the Transvaal.

Speaker Henderson announced the House committees yesterday.

An Australian mounted contingent of 1000 men will go to South Africa.

There will probably be no rivers and harbors bill reported at this session of Congress.

Gen. Lawton has left Manila to capture Gen. Malvar, where Geronimo has 500 insurgents.

Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, former president of Brown University, says the powers of the world will unite against England if that country succeeds in defeating the Boers.

Rear Admiral Lord Charles Beresford recommends that all naval guns which can be spared from the reserves and other ships be mounted on artillery trains for use in South Africa.

M. D. Long, manager of the dynamite factory at Molderfontein, in the Transvaal, has returned to France. He says the Boers have been making preparations for years for the struggle with Great Britain and that no British army can enter the Transvaal and survive.

COMMITTED SUICIDE.

T. T. Patty, of Macon, Shot Himself Through the Head.

Macon, Miss., Dec. 19—T. T. Patty, a member of one of Macon's most prominent families, and deputy sheriff of Noxbee county, committed suicide by shooting himself in the head with a shotgun. He went to the loft of his barn, taking his gun with him, telling his family he was going to kill a mink. The report of the gun was heard, and he was discovered shortly afterwards by his wife, already dead. The charge entered just behind the ear, and death must have been instantaneous. No cause for the suicide is known. He leaves a wife and six or seven children.

THE BRITISH MAILS.

Delayed Because Steamers Are Taken For Transports.

London, Dec. 19—The postoffice authorities have issued a note stating that they have learned that the steamships Majestic, Britanic and Cymbria have been taken by the government for use as transports no White Star liner will depart for New York before December 27 or January 3.

Letters for the United States and Canada will not be dispatched before December 27. Letters posted next week will be forwarded by the Caronet steamer Trave.

LIEUT. BRUMBY'S REMAINS.

Escorted to the Station and Carried to Atlanta for Interment.

Washington, Dec. 19—Lieutenant Brumby's remains were taken to Atlanta this morning over the Southern Railway. The body of the gallant officer was escorted to the depot by a military guard headed by the Marine Band.

Senator Allen, the newly apointed Senator from Nebraska, arrived at the capital last night and will be sworn in today and enter at once upon his duties.

A PROGRESSIVE TOWN.

Crystal Springs Will Put in Electric Lights and Waterworks.

Crystal Springs, Dec. 19—An election was held yesterday to determine whether the town should issue bonds for $25,000 to put in electric lights and waterworks. The voters decided, by a handsome majority, that this improvement was needed and the bonds will be sold as soon as possible and the work commenced.

IS GENERAL LAWTON KILLED?

A Report to That Effect Received by Member of Cabinet.

Washington, Dec. 19—Just before the cabinet met today the report was received by a member of the cabinet to the effect that Gen. Lawton had been shot through the heart at San Mignel.

The cabinet immediately consulted about the dispatch, which had not been officially verified.

FLUNG IN THE RIVER.

Fifty Men and a Dozen Horses Fall From a Bridge.

Wilmington, Dec. 19—Fifty men and one dozen horses were flung into the river by the breaking of the suspension bridge near the Brandywine Granite Company's quarry this morning.

Four men were injured, and one of the horses was killed. The others escaped injury.

THE REVENUE ACT.

A Bill to Reduce Tax on Tobacco and Snuff to 2 Cents.

Washington, Dec. 16—Representative Kitchen has introduced a bill in the House to amend the war revenue act by reducing the tax on tobacco and snuff from twelve to two cents, and repealing telegraph companies, and not the sender, to pay the stamp tax of one cent on each telegraph message.

NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS.

A Large Amount Made Up to Lend to the Stock Market.

New York, Dec. 19—At a meeting of the clearing house committee today new subscriptions to the amount of $10,000,000 were made up for the purpose of lending to the stock market.

EAGERLY WATCHING.

Emperor Menelik, of Abyssinia, Awaiting a Favorable Moment to Strike England in the Soudan.

URGED BY EUROPEAN POWERS.

News of the Progress of the Struggle in South Africa Is Rushed to Him by Telegraph and Messengers.

Rome, Dec. 18—Emperor Menelik, of Abyssinia, is preparing to make a strike like a hawk, and that he is ready to sweep down upon Khartoum at the first moment that a favorable opportunity presents itself.

All of the news of the war in South Africa is telegraphed to Abyssinia as far as Harrar, to go and from thence are rushed to Emperor Menelik by the aid of swift messengers.

There is reason to believe that some of the European powers are inciting Menelik to action against the English

SOUTHERN PROGRESS.

The New Industries Reported in the South in a Week.

Chattanooga, Dec. 18—Among the more important of the new industries reported by the Tradesman during the week ending December 16 are: Brick works, a $100,000 investment, in Mississippi, coal mines in the Birmingham district, two cotton mills each in Georgia and North Carolina and one each in South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas; an electric light and power company in North Carolina; a furniture factory and a $60,000 handle factory in Alabama; two hardware companies in Texas; an ice factory in North Carolina; iron mines in East Tennessee; lumber mills in Florida, Georgia, Mississippi and North Carolina; a $100,000 rice and irrigation company in Texas; a large stave factory in Arkansas; a tobacco steemery in Kentucky; a trunk and bed slat factory in Alabama; wagon works in South Carolina.

THE CURRENCY BILL.

It Passed the House, Eleven Democrats Voting With It.

Washington, Dec. 18—There was quite a lively session of the Senate today. Senator Hoar introduced a resolution declaring it to be the intention of the United States to permanently hold the Philippine islands, and after a lengthy discussion Senator Tillman secured recognition on his resolution declaring that there is no warrant in the constitution for the holding of the islands. He said that the islands would be of no advantage to the commercial interests of the United States and that the Filipinos should be granted independence.

All of the Republican members and eleven Democrats voted for the currency bill.

The speaker announced the standing committees of the house after the passage of the currency bill.

NEW YORK FAILURE.

Producers Exchange and Trust Company Announce Suspension.

New York, Dec. 18—The Producers Exchange and Trust Company announced its suspension this morning. The company claims that an examination of its affairs will probably disclose assets ample to meet all liabilities.

The liabilities are the capital and surplus of $7,000,000, individual deposits $5,000,000, and trust funds to the amount of $150,000. The assets are said to amount to $14,000,000, bonds to the amount of $145,000, and bonds and demand loans for $4,000,000.

HANNA OBJECTED.

And the Payne Plan Was Not Adopted By Committee.

Washington, Dec. 18—The members of the Republican National executive committee paid their respects to President McKinley this morning. Afterwards a session of the committee was held. Mr. Payne said that he would not present his proposed plan to change the basis of representation at the national conventions. Senator Hanna expressed opposition to the plan.

The republican committee has decided that the national convention will meet in Philadelphia June 19.

FIRE AT VICKSBURG.

A Two Story Boarding House and Other Houses Burned.

Vicksburg, Miss., Dec. 17—Fire broke out in the boarding house of John Ryan on Front street last night and totally destroyed the large two-story building. The flames then spread to the store of A. F. May and to a cotton yard where 150 bales of cotton owned by Willis Moore & Company were stored. The total loss is about $10,000, fully covered by insurance.

NEW PRACTICE SHIP.

The Chesapeake Takes Her Trial Trip Over Official Course.

Washington, Dec. 18—Considerable interest is manifested in naval circles in the trial trip of the new practice ship Chesapeake, which takes place today over the official course of the New England coast.

The trial is being conducted by a special board consisting of Commander Emory, Naval Constructor Capps and Lieutenant Commander Henderson. As there is no speed requirement in the case, the Chesapeake being strictly a sailing vessel, the test applies solely to her seagoing qualities.

In the anticipated event of her meeting all contract requirements, the vessel will be fitted out for the use of naval cadets and sent on a short cruise, at the conclusion of which she will go to Annapolis for the permanent use of the naval cadets as a practice ship.

THE COTTON MARKET.

Closing Quotations At Three Exchanges.

The cotton market has rallied somewhat from yesterday's big slump. Liverpool suffered a slight slump both on spots and futures, but New York futures are up eleven points and New Orleans thirteen points. Spots stationary.

Liverpool, Dec. 19—5-32 4 9-32 quiet. Sales, 10,000; receipts, 26,000.

	Today.	Yesterday
Dec.-Jan.	4.05	4.06
Jan.-Feb.	4.03	4.04
Feb.-Mch	4.01	4.02

New York, Dec. 19—Spots 7 1-2, steady. Sales 300.

	Today.	Yesterday
Jan.	7.13	7.07
March	7.24	7.13
May	7.33	7.20

New Orleans, Dec. 19—Spots 7 3-16, steady. Sales 5,600.

	Today.	Yesterday
Jan.	6.97	6.84
March	7.03	6.90
May	7.07	6.94

Jackson, mids, 6 7-8.

MISSISSIPPI MILLS.

Compelled to Run Over Time to Keep Up With Orders.

Wesson, Miss., Dec. 19—Owing to the immense volume of business that is now being done by the Mississippi Mills at this season of the year, and to catch up with orders that are past due, the mills are forced to run three hours longer three days in the week.

Postmaster John R. Matthews, of this city, was married to Miss Nannie Bridger, a cultured and accomplished young lady of Brandywine, twenty-five miles west of here.

The residence and household effects of Howell Cobb, whose home is in Beauregard, one mile and a half north of here, were totally destroyed by fire last night. No insurance.

CONFERENCE ON SCHOOLS.

Indiana People Disapprove of Present Methods Pursued.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 19—A conference of men and women from different parts of the state drawn together by their common disapproval of the present policy of the state with reference to state colleges was held at the Denison hotel today in response to a call recently issued by a local committee.

The purpose of the meeting as outlined in the call, was to map out a line of procedure looking to a change in the policy whereby it is claimed the state has forsaken colleges, one law school and one normal school to the exclusion of schools of the other learned professions.

COTTON AND WOOLEN MILLS.

Recently Announced Raise in Wages Goes Into Effect.

Boston, Dec. 18—The recently announced increase in wages in the cotton and woolen mills of New England went into effect today, the raise benefitting more than 200,000 mill employes. The advance practically includes all of the mills of New England, though in a few instances the new order does not become effective until January 1.

The advance average is ten per cent. It is estimated that the weekly earnings of the cotton mill employes will be increased to a total of $180,000 in excess of their present wages, while the woolen mill operatives will benefit to the amount of $20,000 weekly.

THE QUAY CASE.

The Committee Has Taken Up the Matter for a Hearing.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 19—The contest over the seating of Senator Quay is receiving attention from political and official circles today to the exclusion of everything else.

The senate committee on privileges and elections began its hearing in the case before ten o'clock this morning in an endeavor to complete the hearing today and clear the decks for the hearing of the Clark and Scott cases which will probably be taken up next week.

As only legal questions are involved in the Quay case, the hearing is expected to be brief as no witnesses are to be heard.

BABY IS SHIPPED BY EXPRESS.

Mysterious Infant Is Delivered to a Woman at Bristol, Ind.

Wabash, Ind., Dec. 16—The village of Bristol has a new sensation. Mrs. Sells Setters received by express a bright six months old baby. She is completely mystified by the arrival of the youngster, which was delivered by the express agent, who refused to state from whence it came, pleading ignorance on that point.

Mrs. Setters announces that she will adopt and rear the child. The infant was well clad, a pretty target, and is believed to have started from a station on the Lake Shore road not far from Bristol.

ARMENIAN MASSACRES.

Over Two Hundred and Fifty Killed by the Turks.

Constantinople, via the frontier, Dec. 19—The Armenian patriarch here has received word that a party of Turks and Basouks on last Saturday entered the Armenian village of Patchdour avowedly for the purpose of searching for revolutionists.

Pursuing the alleged search, the party burned houses and massacred 250 persons, including many women and children.

The patriarchs protested to the Sultan against the outrage, telling him that it was the second that had occurred within a fortnight.

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