

THE NORFOLK WEEKLY NEWS.

NORFOLK, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1900.

ARMIES IN ACTION

Concerted Advance Upon the Boers All Along the Line.

ROBERTS MOVING FORWARD.

Reported to Have Begun the March on Bloemfontein.

BULLER RE-CROSSES THE TUGELA.

Alleged to Have Taken One Hill and to Have Repulsed a Counter Attack by the Boers—Advance to Ladysmith Checked by Determined Resistance.

LONDON, Feb. 8.—The British columns are putting themselves in motion in all parts of the South African war fields. A combined attack on the Boers appears to be in progress. General Buller has gained a footing on the plateau north of the Tugela after two days' hard fighting. On the far western border Lord Methuen has begun a turning movement against the Boer right, while General McDonald threatens the Boer flank, thus relieving the pressure on Lord Methuen's front.

Lord Roberts, who, according to an informant in close touch with the war office, is in the middle of the theater of war, has begun the march on Bloemfontein. The Boers have taken the initia-

"Tuesday at 4 p. m. the enemy, encouraged doubtless by their success at Spionkop, endeavored to recapture the position taken by us at Vaalkrantz. They were beaten back, however, with loss.

"The work accomplished so far has been magnificently done. The shell and Maxim fire poured in by the Boers has been very severe, but our losses, comparatively speaking, have been light. The Durham light infantry took a few prisoners in the course of their charge.

"The enemy as usual fought with the utmost stubbornness. The British maneuvering and accuracy of aim on the part of the British artillery during the fighting on Monday were beyond praise. There is not the slightest likelihood that the Boers will succeed in dislodging us from the positions we have gained and the prospects of the relief of Ladysmith are decidedly hopeful."

River Bridged Under Fire.

SPEARMAN'S CAMP, Feb. 7.—General Buller commenced the advance for the relief of Ladysmith Monday. The naval guns opened at 7 in the morning and a feint attack was made in front of our position. Three battalions advanced to ward the Brakfontein, with six batteries. At 11 the Boers opened with artillery fire and sent several shells among the British infantry, who retired an hour later. Meanwhile, a vigorous attack was made on the extreme right, where the engineers expeditiously constructed a pontoon. Several pieces of cannon, hidden among the trees on Zwartkop, bombarded heavily. The British infantry advanced and the Boers were entirely surprised. At 4 o'clock a high hill, a continuation of the Brakfontein, was taken. The operations were excellently planned. The name of the hill taken is Krantzkoof. The bombardment of the Boer position was resumed Tuesday morning. The Boers worked a disappearing cannon from the high Doornkloof range, on the right of the captured hill, but the British shells exploded its magazine and the gun was put out of action until late in the day. Musketry fire was intermittent until the afternoon, when the Boers made a determined effort to retake the hill. Reinforcements rushed up cheering, the Boers were repulsed and the British advanced along the ridge.

Heavy Fighting Monday and Tuesday.

LONDON, Feb. 8.—The Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Spearman's camp, in a dispatch dated Monday night, says: "Under the personal direction of General Buller the attack on the Boer positions was begun this morning by nearly the whole of our batteries, 72 guns, shelling the ridges where the enemy have their trenches and redoubts on the Brakfontein and the low crest facing Potgieter's drift. The enemy suffered severely. Several hills were smoking like volcanoes from the effects of the bombardment, which set on fire their stores and grass.

"While the third pontoon bridge was being constructed under fire the Eleventh brigade, now under the command of Colonel Wynne, made a demonstration against the Brakfontein ridge, marching across the meadows with the support of seven batteries of artillery.

"At 11 o'clock the enemy opened a heavy cannonade of shrapnel, common shells and pompan shells, chiefly from Spionkop. This was accompanied by a rattling musketry fire. Our gunners behaved admirably and were as cool as if upon parade.

"The demonstration having gained its effect the real attack upon the Boer left was delivered at 4 o'clock. The Durham light infantry carried Vaalkrantz, the key of the lower ridges, while General Hildyard's brigade assailed the higher ridges. The general and his troops are bivouacking upon the field of battle. In the language of boudoir bulletins, 'mother and child are doing well.' Our losses are trifling."

British Capture a Kopje.

BOER HEAD LAAGER, LADYSMITH, Feb. 6.—Further reports of Monday's fighting at the Upper Tugela river show that the British lost heavily at Pont drift, but took an important position on a small kopje on the Molen drift side. Four Boers were killed. The British loss is unknown. They are still in possession of the kopje and the big guns have ceased firing.

Buller's Advance Is Checked.

LONDON, Feb. 8.—A special dispatch from Spearman's camp, dated Wednesday, Feb. 7: "Our further advance is at the moment prevented, as the Boers enfilade us from their positions on Spionkop and Doornkloof. Our casualties, although estimated at 250, are trifling, considering the great importance of the movement just concluded."

War Against Scalpers.

DES MOINES, Feb. 8.—The principal question for discussion at the annual convention of the Iowa Marble and Granite Dealers' association, which opened in this city today, is how the marble and granite dealers of the state may secure protection against the itinerant canvassers who are abroad in the land. The dealers will not ask for legislation, but they hope to so thoroughly perfect their organization that the day of the marble "scalpers" in the state will soon be relegated to the past.

Richardson Gets Ninety-nine Years.

WEST PLAINS, Mo., Feb. 8.—The jury in the case of the state vs. Ben Richardson, charged with the murder of Jailer Alf Henry at the jail here last month, found the prisoner guilty of murder in the second degree and fixed his punishment at 99 years in the penitentiary. Twenty hours were consumed in reaching an agreement.

TAYLOR MAY NOT SIGN

Louisville Agreement Does Not Suit Him.

TAKES MORE TIME TO CONSIDER.

Friends of the Kentucky Governor Urge Him to Remain Firm—Republicans Hold a Conference in Frankfort, but No Action Is Taken on the Agreement.

FRANKFORT, Feb. 8.—So far as the situation in the controversy over the governorship of Kentucky is concerned there is practically no change. Governor Taylor has not yet affixed his signature to the Louisville agreement, although the general opinion is that he will ultimately do so. Governor Taylor himself refused absolutely to make any statement in regard to his probable action in the matter, and declined to receive any callers except his legal advisers.

The repeal of the Goebel law is the one thing most strongly desired by Governor Taylor, and as the language of the Louisville agreement is considered by him altogether too vague as regards this matter, it is considered possible that changes may be made in the way of making the clause more specific before Governor Taylor affixes his signature to the agreement.

Another cause of Governor Taylor's delay is said to be the cry of "victory" and "surrender" sent up by the Democrats. The agreement as presented to Governor Taylor is understood to be somewhat different from the published abstracts, in that the clause regarding the election law and one or two other matters is much more specific than it is generally understood to be, though still not strong enough to suit him.

For this reason the rank and file of the Republican party in the state apparently believe there is some foundation for the claims set up by the Democrats and scores of telegrams have poured in on Governor Taylor in the past few days, urging him not to sign the agreement, but to maintain his present position and await further developments.

A conference held in the office of Governor Taylor ended at midnight, without any action being taken on the agreement. The agreement was discussed fully. Those at the conference who signed it at Louisville spoke favorably concerning it, all of them declaring that it was a fair and equitable settlement of the existing troubles, and one that in no way implied a surrender on the part of the Republicans. Governor Taylor showed to the other gentlemen in the meeting a great number of telegrams he had received from all parts of the state, urging him not to give up, and many of them censuring him for accepting the terms of the agreement. It was plain from these, he claimed, that a great feeling had been aroused in the state by the assertion that the agreement was a Republican surrender. It does not now seem probable that final action will be taken on the agreement before the end of the week.

Funeral Services at Frankfort.

FRANKFORT, Feb. 8.—The funeral services of the late Governor Goebel will commence at noon today in the parlors of the Capital hotel. The services proper will be preceded by a short procession in the streets of the town.

COL. THOMPSON IS DYING.

Ex-Secretary of the Navy Is Nearing the End.

TERRE HAUTE, Feb. 8.—Colonel Richard W. Thompson is on his deathbed at the age of 91. Colonel Thompson has been in failing health for several years owing to a general collapse of his nervous system, and with each acute attack his recuperative powers were noticed as failing. Within recent weeks he would sleep almost continuously for two or three days to be followed with periods of wakefulness for almost an equal length of time.

The physician said that he expected death some time today.

Colonel Thompson's friends and physicians think that he might have lived longer had it not been for excessive smoking.

HURRICANE'S HAVOC.

Great Damage to Buildings, Wharves and Shipping at Vancouver.

VANCOUVER, Feb. 8.—A hurricane raged here last night, causing property damage all over the city. The wind, which became almost a cyclone, attained a velocity of 55 miles an hour. Along the water front the waves broke over the wharves and bridges, sweeping away boat houses, wrecking boats and sweeping two steam launches against a pier, battering the craft into total wrecks. Three stone-laden scows went adrift and were wrecked.

Trees were torn up by the roots, flag-staffs and chimneys fell and a cottage on the Westminster road was crushed like an eggshell by a gigantic tree which was blown down and fell on the roof. The damage to residences, factories, wharves and shipping will aggregate many thousands of dollars.

Sugar Factory Shuts Down.

FREMONT, Neb., Feb. 8.—The sugar factory at Ames expects to close down today on its first season's run, the beets having been disposed of sooner than was anticipated. The machinery has worked to their perfect satisfaction, and the company expects to handle 600 tons of beets a day next year.

The man who suggests a compromise has usually been whipped.—Rehoboth Sunday Herald.

TILT IN THE SENATE.

Schurman Contradicts Statements Made by Pettigrew.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—A lively tilt between Dewey (N. Y.) and Pettigrew (S. D.) was the feature in the early proceedings in the senate yesterday. Dewey read a letter from President Schurman of the Philippine commission flatly contradicting statements made by Pettigrew in a speech several days ago and then commented caustically upon the methods of the South Dakota senator in introducing the evidence of such men as President Schurman and Admiral Dewey through the statements of Aguinaldo. Pettigrew replied sharply, saying: "It is well known that this government, through the Philippine commission, offered money for the rifles of the insurgents, but no rifles were turned in except a few that had been captured and given to friendly Filipinos by American officers, in order that they might be turned in so as to get the price offered for them. It is quite as well known that the Schurman commission offered Aguinaldo what amounted to \$5,000 a year if he would lay down his arms."

"I charge," Mr. Pettigrew continued, "that the facts of this question are being withheld and what information is sent to us is garbled, and I charge that we attacked an ally and made a compact with slavery."

Discussion of the financial bill was then resumed, speeches being made by Turner (Wash.), Tate (Tenn.) and Allen (Neb.), all in opposition to the pending measure.

Houses Passes Diplomatic Bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—The house finished the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill yesterday, passing it substantially as it came from the committee. There was some desultory discussion of the Philippine question and the war in South Africa, the principal feature being the speech of Mr. Shafroth in favor of mediation in the British-Boer war under the provisions of the Hague treaty. The diplomatic bill as passed carries \$3,743,908.

BICKFORD ON THE STAND.

Contradicts Much of the Testimony of Witnesses for the Prosecution.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Walter M. Bickford was practically the only witness before the senate committee on elections yesterday in the Clark investigation. He was one of Senator Clark's special friends in the last Montana senatorial campaign. Bickford contradicted much of the testimony of Speaker Swift, Senator Meyers, Representative Sullivan, Dr. Ector, Mr. Cowen and others. He, however, admitted tendering to Dr. Ector \$7,000 with which to lift the indebtedness of Representative Woods of Ravalli county, saying that he had not intended that Mr. Woods should know of his doing this and that his only purpose was to control the debt so that the Daly people could not get hold of it and thus force Wood into voting contrary to his inclination. He received the money from Senator Clark's son and when it was not accepted for Wood by Ector, he had returned it to Clark. Clark had paid him \$2,500 as counsel fees.

For an Arch of Nationality.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—The secretary of war, to whom the military committee of the house referred the bill of General Grosvenor providing for the erection of a memorial arch upon the battlefield about Chattanooga, has returned the same to the committee with a report thereon from the Chickamauga and Chattanooga national military park commission. The report sets forth in detail the direct interest of each state, north and south, and of the veterans of each of the armies engaged in the battles about Chattanooga, and also the later interest aroused by the assembling there of a national army to participate in the war with Spain.

Then She Called Him Pet Names.

"I'm afraid we must be divorced, my dear," said Mr. Newlywed to his young wife. "The doctor says I have rheumatic tendencies and must give up all sweet things."—Harper's Bazar.

TELEGRAMS TERSELY TOLD.

The International Association of Musicians was formed in Cleveland Wednesday with S. L. Pierce of St. Louis as president. A membership of 5,000 is claimed.

William H. Stiles, 70 years of age, was arrested at South Bend, Ind., Wednesday, charged with embezzling \$10,000 from the estate of the late Samuel Halstead of New York.

The residences of A. G. Huey and R. T. Greenwood, on Coronado beach, Cal., were burned Wednesday. The infant child of Mrs. Greenwood perished and Mrs. Greenwood was fatally burned.

Adolph E. Rothschild, who had a bank in Naples in the time of the Neapolitan monarchy, died in Paris Wednesday. He had always retained intimate relations with the royal family of Naples.

"Bill" Cook, who was sentenced in 1835 to 45 years' imprisonment in the Albany penitentiary, died there Wednesday from consumption. He was one of the most noted desperadoes of the Indian Territory.

Dr. William Steinitz, the famous chess player, was taken from his home to the insane pavilion of Bellevue hospital, New York, Wednesday. He is 62 years old and was confined in an asylum in Moscow in 1897.

Representative McClellan of New York introduced a bill in the house Wednesday for the acquisition of the Erie canal by the United States government and its enlargement to a capacity sufficient for the largest vessels of war, at a cost not exceeding \$75,000,000.

DECIDES RATE CASE.

State Board Rescinds Its Order Made In 1897.

REDUCTION IN EXISTING RATES

System of Carload Charges on Live Stock Is Sidetracked and Secretaries Now Propose Cut of Ten Per Cent on Cattle and Five Per Cent on Hogs.

LINCOLN, Feb. 8.—The state board of transportation yesterday rescinded its order of a week ago compelling the maintenance of carload rates on live stock and in lieu of the acceptance of the 100-pound rate, adopted an order reducing the rate on hogs 5 per cent and on cattle 10 per cent. The board today will make this action operative and begin an investigation of railroad freight rates with a view to ordering further reductions if found to be justified.

At the hint of a reduction in the existing live stock rates W. R. Kelly of the Union Pacific asserted that the railroads had been summoned to show cause why the order of 1897 should not be enforced and that under this summons they should not be made to combat a proposition to reduce rates.

Attorney General Smyth asserted that the order of the board had been disobeyed and that the burden was on the railroads to show why it should not be enforced.

After several hours had been spent discussing the question Treasurer Meserve introduced the resolution instructing the secretaries to order a reduction in cattle and swine rates. The roll call showed the following result: Yea, Meserve, Wolfe, Cornell; nay, Porter, Smyth.

Shoots His Father-in-Law.

WATERLOO, Neb., Feb. 8.—At noon yesterday Thomas Barton fatally shot his father-in-law, Mr. Hively. Barton and his brother-in-law, Dave Hively, were fighting in the street. Barton pulled his revolver and fired at Dave, but just at that instant the elder Hively stepped between them and received the bullet at the side of the nose. It is said that the quarrel between him and Dave Hively was due to the charge that Barton had been beating his wife, formerly Emma Hively.

Omaha Is Storm Swept.

OMAHA, Feb. 8.—Omaha is blizzard swept. The storm descended late yesterday afternoon and steadily increased in volume and velocity throughout the greater part of the night. The snow was so blinding that vision was obscured, except at very short range. Street car traffic was seriously handicapped. The storm is reported general from various points in the state and along the various roads east and west running into Omaha.

MAY ADJOURN MARCH 1.

Resolution Introduced in Iowa Legislature to That Effect.

DES MOINES, Feb. 8.—It is probable the Iowa legislature will adjourn the first day of March. Eyers of Shelby yesterday introduced a concurrent resolution in the house providing that the president of the senate and the speaker of the house declare their respective bodies adjourned sine die Thursday, March 1, at noon. There is a strong movement on foot to adjourn the house at that time, although some believe it will be impossible. Conservative men declare that if the legislature considers all bills pending before that body it will be in session at least until the middle of April.

WRECK ON THE MILWAUKEE.

Fatal Collision Between Passenger and Freight at Donnan Station.

DUBUQUE, Ia., Feb. 8.—A head-on collision between a passenger train going north and a freight train occurred yesterday on the Calmar division of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul at Donnan station. Fireman Hamble of the passenger train was killed. Engineer Schaeffer of the passenger was badly scalded. S. C. Wyman of Waucoma had a leg crushed and it is thought it must be amputated. Several others suffered injuries but none seriously. Both engines and several cars were wrecked. The mishap was owing to dense fog.

Church Choir on a Strike.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., Feb. 8.—This city is the scene of a novel strike, the magnificent vestry choir of Grace church under Professor Hall having quit because the rector, Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Greene, late candidate for bishopric of Iowa, publicly criticizing the singers Sunday morning. The choir and organist say the rector was angry because a soprano turned about in the stall and faced the audience.

LINCOLN, Feb. 8.—The Republican state central committee at a meeting last night decided on May 2, at Lincoln, as the time and place for holding the state convention for the selection of national delegates and nomination of a state ticket.

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MAJOR GENERAL N. J. LYTLETON.

Set against General Gatacre, attacking two of his positions at Sterkboom.

It really looks as though the general forward movement, so long talked of, was in progress. General Buller's third attempt at relieving Ladysmith absorbs attention. Telegrams of from 100 and 200 words from a dozen correspondents have been passed by the censor, who has apparently related messages written Monday or Tuesday to Wednesday at 6 p. m. From these it is clear that General Buller, up to Tuesday evening, had taken one hill, had repulsed a Boer counter attack and was holding the position against an enflading fire from Spionkop and Doornkloof. His losses, as mentioned by one correspondent, are 250.

The only telegrams from Boer sources assert that one of General Buller's attempts to seize the fords failed, but they admit that he has lodged forces on one kopje.

Light on General Buller's operations ceases here, the war office not contributing any information.

Account of Buller's Operations.

LONDON, Feb. 8.—The Standard has the following from Spearman's camp, dated Feb. 7: "The force under General Buller is again advancing to the relief of Ladysmith, and after two days of severe fighting it may fairly be said to have a fairly good first step on the road. The movement was begun early Monday morning via Potgieter's drift. The Eleventh brigade, forming a part of the Fifth division under General Warren, made a feint attack on the kopje's immediately on our front. The assault was delivered at the outset under cover of naval guns on Mount Alice and subsequently under that of field batteries.

"The infantry advanced steadily toward the Boer entrenched position at Brakfontein and kept the enemy busily employed. While this diversion was being made, the remainder of the infantry told off for the attack, which had been bivouacked Sunday night under Mount Alice, moved along at the foot of Zwartkop, in the direction of our right.

"A pontoon bridge was thrown across the Tugela by the engineers under the fire of the enemy.

"The first battalion to move across in the forenoon was the Durham light infantry of General Lytleton's brigade. They advanced against Vaalkrantz, which lies on the most direct road to Ladysmith, and after two hours' splendid work they got within charging distance of the Boers.

"The first of the kopjes was carried by them at the point of the bayonet by the utmost gallantry. Almost simultaneously the Rifle brigade cleared the second kopje, and after moving across the long ridge, they bivouacked on the spot.

"The feint attack at Potgieter's having served its purpose in preventing the concentration of the enemy at the critical point, the Eleventh brigade fell back to the river. In the course of the operation both the infantry and the artillery had been subjected to a severe shell fire.