

HOT FIGHT GOING ON

Hamilton's Division Drives Boers from a Range of Hills.

BRITISH WERE DRIVEN BACK MONDAY

Burgbar Army Locates on a Mountain and Shells Outlying Camps.

BRITISH TRY TO HEM BOTH'S FORCE IN

Boer General Reinforced and Greater Battle is Imminent.

ROBERTS' PLANS TO REACH PRETORIA

His Intention Now Seems to Be to Move Forward Simultaneously from Bloemfontein, Kimberley and Ladysmith.

LONDON, May 3.—The Post has the following from Winston Churchill, dated Thaba N'Chu, April 30:

"When General Dickson retired in the circumstances related in my last telegram his own men and the brigade which was left in the hands of the enemy and his rearward was heavily fired on.

"This retreat compromised General Hamilton, who therefore collected his forces and fell back onto Thaba N'Chu, after sharply checking the advancing enemy with musketry and artillery fire.

"Although much ammunition was expended on both sides the losses were insignificant, the fighting being at great range. The result is that the Boers are willing to retreat but it is the power of the present force to interfere with them or their wagons."

The immediate objective of Lord Roberts is to establish a line of British posts from one frontier of the Free State to the other at right angles with the railway, thus preventing Boer raids southward. It is essential therefore that the Boers should be expelled from the rugged Thaba N'Chu district and be forced to retire to Ladysmith.

The Boers continued to follow their harassing tactics. One well horsed commando operating in the Sannas post district interfered with the convoys going from Bloemfontein to Thaba N'Chu. The Boers nearly captured a convoy Tuesday, but were driven off after a brisk fight.

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THABA N'CHU, Tuesday, May 1.—Afternoon.—General Hamilton's division was engaged yesterday and today in forcing a passage northward. At Houtney the Boer front held a line of hills commanding the sides of the nek. The Canadian and Gordon's attacked the hill to the left and the Shropshires and Marshall's Horse, supported by a battery, also made an attack on the enemy, who finally fled, leaving many wounded, and the passage was cleared.

The Boers on the mountain are now shelling the outlying camp, necessitating removal to a safer place.

The Boers have three guns on the hill to the eastward of this place, outside the range of the British artillery. The Boer shelling is not doing any damage. The enemy retired their positions and the British are not attempting to dislodge them.

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Trying to Hem Them In.

LONDON, May 3.—It is difficult to unravel the tangled stories coming from the neighborhood of Thaba N'Chu, but apparently the British forces are engaged in a movement having for its object the hemming in of the Boer will in that district.

While Generals French and Buller are holding the Boers at Thaba N'Chu General Broadwood's cavalry has been pushed on Houtney in the hope of intercepting the federal convoys between Ladysmith and Windberg. As General Botha has been reinforced, there is every prospect of sharp fighting.

The new scene of operations and the general movements of the various columns are taken to indicate that Lord Roberts is not doing any damage. The enemy retired their positions and the British are not attempting to dislodge them.

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CRONIE'S RELATIVE IS KILLED

Sentry Who Shoots a Prisoner Who Strays into the Boundary.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, May 2.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The Standard correspondent telegraphs from Capetown, May 2: "A Boer prisoner, a relative of Cronje's, who was reported to have mysteriously disappeared, was observed with several others on Monday exercising outside the limits after dark. The men disregarded the sentry's repeated warning to return within the area. The soldier thereupon, shooting Cronje's relative."

The Mail correspondent telegraphs from Lourenco Marques, May 2: "Storing of provisions by the Boer government at Lydenburg continues and fortifications have been begun there. It is impossible to connect Lydenburg with the Katberg mountains, owing to the mountainous nature of the country, but lately there has been great activity on the old disused Selati railway, which runs northwest from Komati poort. It is the evident intention of the government to continue this railway to Lydenburg and destroy the Netherlands railway, as a last resort, by blowing up the tunnels, and to hold Drakenberg as the eastern barrier with Lydenburg as headquarters. Show that the Lydenburg campaign would become extremely difficult, while Lydenburg has direct communication with Delagoa via the Selati railway and Komati poort."

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ALMOST A SECOND ALAMO

Twenty of an American Garrison Are Killed in a Church.

TEN SURVIVORS RESCUED JUST IN TIME

Four Hundred Filipinos Attack Thirty Men of the Forty-Third Infantry at Catubig, Island of Samar.

MANILA, May 2.—The American garrison of Catubig, island of Samar, consisting of thirty men belonging to the Forty-third regiment, has been attacked by rebels. Twenty of the Americans were killed. The remainder were rescued.

The Americans were quartered in the Catubig church, which the enemy, numbering some 400 men, surrounded and fiercely attacked. The Americans fought for two days and then the church was burned and the roof of the church and it burned away and finally fell upon those inside the edifice. The walls remained intact, however, and were used as a shelter by the besieged Americans for three days longer, the enemy attacking the building on all sides at once.

The Americans continued firing from the windows and doors of the church and did great execution among the Filipinos. It is estimated that over 200 of the latter were killed, many dead bodies being removed from the scene of fighting.

After five days' resistance by the Americans a lieutenant and eight men arrived from Loaoan and engaged the besiegers, who thereupon retired.

The fortunate arrival of these reinforcements prevented the annihilation of the American force entrenched in the church, who had repeatedly declined to surrender when ordered.

The ten survivors were without food, had little ammunition and were exhausted when relieved.

Another Garrison Threatened. This fight has encouraged the Filipinos, who are now acting in an aggressive manner and threatening that section of the coast, particularly the town of Catama, whence the garrison will probably be withdrawn to Loaoan.

General Finston has discovered a rebel warehouse near Cabanatuan, province of New Eljio, containing all the archives of the Malolos government, Aguinaldo's correspondence up to the time of his flight and much valuable historical matter.

The belief is growing that Aguinaldo was killed by the Igoroties. There is no proof that he has been alive since Major Peyton C. March of the Thirty-third regiment abandoned the chase after the Filipino leader in the Bengue mountains, although an insurgent officer who recently surrendered to General Young says the insurgent Tino holds this belief. Tino held regular communication with Aguinaldo until December 28, since when he has heard nothing of him, and Tino thinks Aguinaldo would not mean to communicate with him if alive.

Major Marsh's information was that there were only half a dozen soldiers with Aguinaldo when he fled beyond the Bontoc wilderness, where the savages are hostile to all strangers. Private E. J. Aguilino, who asserts that she has heard nothing from him since they parted. She is in a delicate condition and nearly prostrated with worry. Therefore she has not been informed of the death of her child and thinks it is with friends at Bacoor.

Sulu's Sultan at Singapore. The sultan of Sulu, with retinue including several of his wives, has called for Singapore, ostensibly on a religious mission. A Hong Kong dispatch to a Manila paper says the sultan has gone to Singapore in order to protest to the British against the Americans establishing a tariff against imports, claiming that it is a violation of the treaty of 1877 between Spain, Great Britain and Germany. Germany guaranteed the Sulu islands free trade, whereas the Americans have established a tariff nearly doubling the price of tobacco, rice and the Sulu staples of life, most of which are imported from Singapore.

The Filipino crew of the steamship Escano recently mutinied in the channel between Cebu and Leyte and killed the captain, the mate and the owner, Senor Escano, and his son with knives, after a desperate struggle. The mutineers scuttled the ship and escaped to the Leyte mountains with \$25,000.

RIVAL OF STANDARD OIL

Assertion Made that Superior Oil Company of Wyoming Will Compete with Rockefeller.

DENVER, Colo., May 2.—The Times today says that the Superior Oil company, which has filed articles of incorporation at Cheyenne, Wyo., and is capitalized at \$10,000,000, will enter into competition with the Standard Oil company of the Continental Oil company in the territory west of the Missouri river.

The Superior Oil company, which was promoted by P. C. Shannon of Pittsburgh, Pa., absorbed the Pennsylvania Oil company, which had acquired the largest part of the oil territory in the vicinity of Casper, Wyo. The stockholders and trustees of the new company are oil men and financiers of Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, Pa., and Birmingham, N. Y.

It is announced that over \$3,000,000 will be spent this year in the construction of pipe lines, pumping stations, storage tanks, refineries, etc., and in drilling new wells.

ST. LOUIS TAKES A DAY OFF

Business to Be Suspended Saturday in Honor of Dewey's Victory.

ST. LOUIS, May 2.—Mayor Ziegenhain has proclaimed Saturday a public holiday in honor of Admiral Dewey and requests that all business be suspended in order that everybody may be afforded an opportunity of greeting the distinguished visitor and seeing the parade.

The arrangements for the reception of Admiral Dewey and party are almost completed. A few minor details are being looked after by the different committees.

A reception committee, headed by O. L. Whitelaw, president of the Merchants' Exchange, will leave here Thursday morning to meet Dewey at Jacksonville, Ill., returning at 6:45 p. m. A special committee was appointed to see that all of the admiral's personal wants are attended to. The chairman is F. L. Ridgely.

Quadruple Killing in Texas. DENVER, Colo., May 2.—A special to the News from Fort Worth, Tex., says: A messenger received here late tonight giving information of a quadruple killing at Quanah. Two of the men are Lute and Cagle Beach, but the names of the other two are not known here. The trouble originated over a grass lease. The men met on the public thoroughfare and opened a fusillade with Winchester, according to indignant news received here tonight. All four men are prominent cattlemen. The beaches live at Stephenville, Erath county.

KEMAL GETS OUT OF TURKEY

Seeks Asylum on British Ship and Sails for Country Where He is Safe.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 2.—It is now learned that Ismail Kemal Bey, well known for his friendships for Great Britain, and who was recently appointed wali of Tripoli, which appointment was tantamount to exile, and attaching the building on all sides at once mysteriously disappeared, but with his three sons gotten safely out of Constantinople on board the steamer Rubhatino, enroute for Europe. It develops that when Ismail Kemal Bey disappeared he boarded the British gunboat Salamander and claimed an asylum, which was immediately granted to him. The British embassy then informed the palace authorities of this fact, adding that Ismail desired to go abroad. The sultan feigned surprise at such a desire, but finally declared that Ismail was free to remain in Turkey, or to go to Tripoli, or to go abroad.

The fugitives were eventually taken to the Rubhatino, which was ready to bring out and the number of corpses yet to be reached is still uncertain.

Three hundred and ninety-eight men had entered the mine.

Arriving trains are constantly bringing relatives of the victims from outside privately to the mine. The shift now in the mine has fifty bodies ready to be reached is still uncertain.

While the departure of Ismail is partly due to the conviction that it is impossible for anyone of enlightened views to remain in Turkey under the present prevailing conditions, he is also believed to have been urged by the recent address of sympathy for Great Britain in connection with the war in South Africa which has already been mailed.

In spite of the pope's refusal to sanction the latter the British postoffice at Salonica was opened Tuesday.

CHRIST'S LETTERS TO AGRIPPA. Speculation Over Stone Carving Found at Ephesus.

LONDON, May 2.—Prof. George R. M. Mearns, keeper of the department of botany in the British museum, when questioned by the correspondent of the Associated Press today regarding the reported rediscovery, after being lost for more than 900 years, of letters claimed to have passed between Christ and King Agrippa, and to have been carried in stone of the gateway of the palace of the kings of Ephesus, says:

"There is no doubt that the inscription found at Ephesus is a genuine production of the fifth century. Beyond that nothing definite can be said except that it is in the nature of Syrian writings of the second century discovered a few years ago relating to alleged writings between Christ and Agrippa. The discovery of the stone inscription at Ephesus was made by Prof. Heberdey, who had charge of excavations there on behalf of the German government. He published the results of his work some time ago in Vienna.

"The fact that these alleged letters between Christ and Agrippa were used as a charm by Christians in the fifth century on their lives is not surprising, but it would not prove that such correspondence occurred. Certain Syrian documents dated in the year 509 A. D., and giving almost the same letters, have long been suspected of being literary forgeries. The discovery of the stone inscriptions, however, is a most interesting and tolerably certain fact as early as the second century news of Christ's miracles had spread to heathen countries and that the early Christians believed that Agrippa asked Christ to come to heal him and that Christ replied:

"The alleged answer is almost a paraphrase of much that is found in the New Testament. Whether it was actually sent or was the result of a continuing tradition, transferred from papyrus to stone, is a question opening too wide a field for mere conjecture. Many points in Prof. Heberdey's discovery, however, are most important."

RIOTS IN BULGARIAN TOWNS. Mayor of One Village Killed in Protest Against Tax Law.

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Condition of King Otto. BERLIN, May 2.—A bulletin issued yesterday regarding the demoted King Otto of Bavaria says:

"The king suffers from pains in the loins which have been continuous since April 21, and which are liable to relapse. The bladder, however, is otherwise satisfactory and does not give cause for alarm at present."

Torpedo Flotilla on the Rhine. BERLIN, May 2.—The torpedo flotilla yesterday passed up the river through Holland, inasmuch as it was necessary to pass at various points. The people were very enthusiastic when the band of the flagship played the Dutch national hymn. Today the flotilla proceeded to Düsseldorf, where it is this evening.

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DEAD NEAR THREE HUNDRED

Mine Explosion at Scofield, Utah, Hourly Grows in Horror.

WORK OF RESCUE STILL GOING ON

Mine Was Considered Perfectly Safe and Entirely Free from Gas—Powder Kegs May Have Blown Up.

SCOFIELD, Utah, May 2.—Tonight's estimate of the number of killed in the terrible mine explosion here yesterday is 250, but the total death list may yet reach 300.

Relief work is still in progress, being conducted by shifts of men. The shift now in the mine has fifty bodies ready to be reached is still uncertain.

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CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Fair, Colder; Northerly Winds. Temperature at Omaha yesterday: Dec. 5 a. m. 58 1 p. m. 54