

THE OMAHA WORLD-HERALD

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871.

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CATCH ROBBER BAND

Colonel Smith Captures a Party of Guerrillas Near Malauqui.

SENT TO MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS

Have Kept Country in a State of Terror for Several Weeks.

REBELS DIVIDE INTO ROBBER BANDS

General Otis Reports that Organized Rebellion No Longer Exists.

ALL IMPORTANT TOWNS ARE OCCUPIED

In the Last Few Days the American Casualties Have Been Ten to One Hundred of the Insurgents.

MANILA, Dec. 12.—7:50 p. m.—Colonel Smith, with a detachment of the Seventeenth Infantry, surrounded and captured in a village near Malauqui a party of guerrillas who had made their headquarters there. The party included the band which assassinated seven officials of Malauqui for their fidelity to the Americans. All are insurgents who became bandits when the disintegration of the Philippine army began. They kept the country around Malauqui in a state of terror for several weeks, and committed twenty-five murders in a number of days. When they were caught they were promptly sent to General MacArthur's headquarters at Bayambang by train.

It is expected they will be speedily tried and either shot or hanged as an example. The whole country north of San Fernando and between San Fernando and Manila, except within the permanent line of troops around the city and the closely patrolled stretches of railroad, swarms with similar bands. Probably they will be increased by men from Pilar's army, many of whom are refraining from giving assistance to the insurgents.

These people for the most part succeeded in dodging General Grant, Colonel Bell and Colonel Hood's troops, who are scouring the country for them. They devote their energies to ambushing commissary wagons and to picking up soldiers who leave their commands. Every day some wagon train is fired upon or some soldier disappears.

General Wheeler's secretary, Mr. Garrett, was disarmed and slashed on a holiday almost within sight of headquarters, his assailant pursuing him nearly into the headquarters building. The policy of these ruffians is to make the country uninhabitable for Americans and to frighten natives into refraining from giving assistance to the Americans, as well as to compel the inhabitants to support the insurrection.

Worse Than Fighting Indians.

Frequently they raid and loot towns. The brother of the president of Iloilo was outside the town the other day to harvest rice. He was captured by the guerrillas, accused of being a spy and executed. Only a small proportion of the insurgent army have been surrendered and the problem of suppressing the guerrilla warfare is anything but easy of solution. Some of the American officers think it worse than fighting Indians, owing to the difficulties of the country and the trouble in locating the enemy, who resort to hide and seek, to the ambush and to the use of snipers and a proclamation declaring all natives found with arms to be bandits, punishable as criminals, instead of being treated as prisoners of war.

The information has been received at headquarters that 500 Spanish prisoners have been shipped from Vigan to Manila and that 1,500 others have been assembled at Vigan, including General Pina. Probably these are Spanish released by General Young's troops in the Benguet district, where they were concentrated by the insurgents.

Rebels in Robber Bands.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The War department has received the following cablegram from General Otis, descriptive of the military situation in Luzon:

"MANILA, Dec. 12.—In Bulacan province the insurgents have been scattered and driven east to the mountains. Our casualties in that section in the last few days were ten. The insurgent army consists of 100,000 men and prisoners aggregate 100. Considerable insurgent property with records, arms and ammunition have been captured. Our troops are now in the mountains in pursuit.

"The insurgents have been driven from Subig bay and the marines now occupy a naval station there. Our column moving west from Tarlac is now on the west coast of Luzon, where it has been supported. It encountered little resistance. A column is now moving west and south from Dagupan along the coast.

"There is no concentrated insurgent force of importance in Luzon north of Manila. Southern Luzon was not offered any serious resistance. Troops are co-operating in that section.

"Organized rebellion no longer exists and our troops are actively pursuing robber bands. All important towns have been captured and the population in the north have been organized.

OTIS.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—Reuters Telegram company has received the following dispatch from Hong Kong:

"The insurgent government (so-called) of the Philippines will be organized to a dictatorship to continue hostilities against the Americans exclusively by the methods of guerrilla warfare. The Filipino army is being split up into small bands, the troops taking an oath before separation that they will fight until their country's rights are recognized.

"A force of United States marines, which landed at Vigan, South Bicos province, from the battleship Oregon, was defeated by a Filipino under General Tino on December 4. The Manila newspapers, despite the censorship, admit that General Lawton is missing.

"The foregoing dispatch was evidently sent by the Filipino junta in Hong Kong.

FALLS INTO TAGAL PITFALL

Soldier Injured by Being Impaled on Sharpened Bamboo Sticks.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says: In hospital reports which reached the War department from Manila is chronicled the first casualty due to falling into a Tagal pitfall which contained the horrible device of bamboo posts set firmly in the hole and sharpened at the top for the purpose of impaling the unwary. The American troops have frequently found such traps on the line of march and especially in front of insurgent trenches, but

CAPTURE A BOER HOWITZER

General Fuller Reports a Brilliant Brilli Sortie at Ladysmith.

COLONEL METCALFE LEADS THE TROOPS

English Lose Eleven Killed, Several Wounded and Six Taken Prisoners, While Carrying for Those Who Had Fallen.

OPENING OF THE HEMP PORTS

General Otis Cables an Answer to Inquiry from War Department Relative to the Question.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—In answer to the inquiry from the War department relative to the opening of the hemp ports in the Philippine General Otis today made the following response:

"MANILA, Dec. 12.—Hemp ports will be open as soon as the transportation of troops can be secured. Prohibitory active trade early in June. See annual report, page 262."

A reference to the place in the report received by General Otis shows the following statement:

"Of the three staple articles of the islands—hemp, tobacco and sugar—only the latter shows a very marked depreciation in amount secured and exported. About the same quantity of hemp was taken from the shipping ports during the last year as in the preceding year and large exports of tobacco have been made. There will remain considerable quantities of the hemp and tobacco, but a short time ago Aguinaldo issued a so-called decree forbidding his subjects to permit the opening of the ports to the entrance of any merchandise which would destroy the American flag and as the international commerce is carried on under that flag, his decree terminated trade at those where troops are not maintained."

FUNSTON WILL FIGHT IT OUT

Says He Will Call Men to Account for Stand on His Return.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—A special dispatch to the Record from Honolulu, December 5 (via San Francisco, December 12), says: Brigadier General Funston, accompanied by his aide, Burton J. Mitchell, arrived here Sunday morning on the transport Itasca. It is a coincidence that it was on the Itasca that General Funston, then colonel with the Twenty-third Kansas, went to Manila a little more than a year ago. He was here during the first American election ever held in Hawaii.

"I regret now," said General Funston, speaking of his dispute in America, "that I allowed myself to get into this controversy. But my fighting blood was up at the malicious statements made reflecting on the Kansas troops and the American soldiers generally, as well as upon myself. But now that I am in it, I can get back from Manila. I shall take the matter into the courts."

Mr. Dole has written President McKinley in regard to the matter of the Hawaiian Islands. He has informed the president of the clause in the Hawaiian constitution vacating the office of a cabinet minister when he is absent from the islands for sixty days and of the necessity for an appeal to the president for the removal and the appointment of Theodore F. Lansing.

YOUNG RESCUES PRISONERS

Brutal Nevada Regiment and Edwards of Kentucky Rescued.

MANILA, Dec. 12.—10:25 a. m.—General Young reports the rescue of a brigade of the Nevada regiment of Edwards and his men by the Philippines. General Tino, conveying the American prisoners north, is hotly pursued. Aguinaldo is a fugitive in the mountains, his baggage having been destroyed and Grigoroff killed.

General Conception has surrendered. The Lepanto province has been cleared of insurgents. The navy co-operated with the army on the west coast of Luzon where Spanish prisoners are coming to Manila.

YAQUI AND MEXICAN BATTLE

Indians Attack an Army of Four Thousand Mexican Soldiers, Numerous Killed on Both Sides.

AUSTIN, Tex., Dec. 12.—Information reaching here today is to the effect that on December 3 the Yaqui Indians and the Mexican forces, under General Torres, had a pitched battle near Rio Chicago, on the Yaqui river. The engagement was between the main body of Indians, the Mexican forces numbering some 4,000 men.

About ten days ago several bands of roving Yaquis, who had been out on scouting expeditions and depredating tours, began gathering at the main camp of the Yaquis, located in the mountains on the Pacific coast river. The Mexican troops attempted to head these small bands at their camp.

The onslaught was vigorous, but not very effective, as the Indians did not advance in a solid body, preferring their old warfare of man for man behind boulders and trees. In this manner they began their attack on the soldiers' camp, and according to reports, the fighting was most severe and lasted for a day and night, when the Indians withdrew, having sustained considerable loss. The militia made several attempts to dislodge the Indians from their retreat in the mountains, but without success, and upon each day the soldiers lost quite a number of men killed and wounded.

While the military troops are engaging this main body of Indians, there are a number of smaller bands of Yaquis roaming around the mountainous country, laying ranches in waste and otherwise playing havoc. It is learned that the Mexican forces have the Twentieth infantry marching to their assistance, when they hope to follow the main body of the Indians and either capture or annihilate them.

Flax Breaks All Records.

DULUTH, Minn., Dec. 12.—Flax bulged to a bushel today, breaking all records, and dropped lower than it has advanced. McCarthy Bros. & Robbins Warner were buyers. December sold at \$1.55 and May at \$1.55. McCarthy bid \$1.55; for May with out setting any, and they sold the market down 10 cents a bushel. About 100,000 bushels changed hands. Highest previous prices were paid in December, 1894, when spot sold at \$1.55 and May at \$1.45.

STRIFE OF THE FACTIONS

Supporters of Both Allen and Hitchcock Urging Their Appointment.

GOVERNOR BESIEGED BY THE POLITICIANS

Gives a Hearing to Many and Looks Over His Accumulation of Letters and Telegrams—Gossip of the Contest.

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Partly Cloudy and possibly Snow; Variable Winds.

TEMPERATURE AT OMAHA YESTERDAY

Time of Day. Temperature. 5 a. m. 21. 1 p. m. 21. 3 p. m. 21. 5 p. m. 21. 7 p. m. 20. 9 p. m. 20. 11 p. m. 20. 12 m. 20. 8 p. m. 18.

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Executive Committee Decides to Hold the Next Convention at St. Paul.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—(Special Telegram.)—The executive committee of the National League of Republican Clubs, which met in this city today, had presented to that body a number of novel proposals. One of which was that the league should amend its constitution so as to appear in national republican conventions and there express its choice for president and vice president.

Another proposal was that the league should hold its next convention in St. Paul, Minn., in the city of Lincoln, which was state delegate to the committee meeting. Captain Woodward, George Stone of San Francisco presided and the main feature today was a discussion of the proposed repeal of article 11 of the league constitution, which prohibits it from endeavoring to influence the nomination of any candidate for the adoption of any policy by any state or national convention.

Those opposing repeal urged that a change such as that proposed would result in electing politicians controlling the machinery of the league in favor of particular persons. Mr. Crawford of Kentucky offered a resolution providing that a committee of five be appointed to present to the next national convention a revision of the constitution and by-law and to incorporate in such a revision an article providing for revenue, so that the league may be self-sustaining. Both matters were shelved temporarily.

The claims of cities which are anxious to entertain the national convention were also discussed. The advantages of St. Paul, Minn., were set forth by D. M. Reese, clerk of the Minnesota supreme court, and Representative Burke of South Dakota, on behalf of the republican league of Sioux Falls, and Business Men's league of Sioux Falls, invited the league to hold its convention at Sioux Falls.

After listening also to the claims of Galveston and Indianapolis, St. Paul was chosen as the place for holding the next convention, receiving twenty-eight votes for three for Indianapolis and sixteen for Sioux Falls. The date for the convention was fixed for the third Tuesday in July.

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BOER STATEMENT OF THE FIGHT

Pretoria Says Number of Dead and Wounded in British Unknown.

PRETORIA, Sunday, Dec. 10.—President Steyn has sent the following details of the fight at Stormberg Junction:

The British, with 400 men, attacked the Boers under Swaneppel and Olivier and stormed the Boers' entrenched positions on the kopjes. After a severe fight they were compelled to surrender. The prisoners are Major Sturges, six officers and 230 noncommissioned officers and men of the Northumberland and two officers and about 250 noncommissioned officers and men of the Irish Fusiliers. It is impossible to state the number and ability of the Boers who fought. The Boers captured three cannon and two ammunition wagons.

Kaffirs to Help English

(Copyright, 1899, by Press Publishing Co.) PIETERMARITZBURG, Dec. 12.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—A thousand Kaffirs have been sent forward to aid the English forces at Stormberg Camp. When they arrived they marched into the camp singing war songs. It is said they will be employed with the army service corps in handling freight and doing fatigues duties.

British Transport Ashore

LAS VEGAS, Nev., December 12.—The British transport Denton Guard, with war munitions on board, is ashore outside the harbor and making water.

The British transport Denton Guard, Captain Williams, when last reported was at Southampton, November 19, bound for Table Bay, Cape Colony.

War Correspondent Exchanged.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—A special dispatch from Lourenco Marques says that a Boer telegram says Ladysmith, which was captured by the Boers while acting as a correspondent for the London Daily Mail, has been exchanged for a Boer woman who was a prisoner at Mafeking.

CENSOR REPORTS A VICTORY

Announces the Colombian Government Has Occupied Cimantona on the Gulf of Caracao.

CARACAS, Venezuela (via Haytian Cable), Dec. 12.—It is announced that the Colombian government has occupied Cimantona, on the Gulf of Caracao, and the revolution is said to be in a state of collapse.

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Dec. 8.—The latest authentic private advices from Colombia, via the isthmus of Panama, indicate the growing gravity of the situation there. The revolution is gaining strength and accounts of a coup d'etat are coming in from the chief telegraphic bulletins of "sanginary battles" and "splendid, decisive triumphs" are described as the merest skirmishes, in which the mortality is trifling.

The present plan of the insurgents is to keep the government troops moving and the "splendid triumphs" really signify nothing but the systematic organized retreats of the insurgents. The alleged frightful losses of the insurgents are especially regarded as fabrications. At Buenaventura, for instance, the government on November 12, and 13 issued a bulletin alleging that 1,000 of the insurgents have been slain. The fact is the insurgents have not half that number of men under arms in any one place in the republic. The military forces of the revolution consist of not more than 200 or 300, the number being limited by considerations of commissariat, etc., their sole object being to keep the government troops divided, and to confuse them by rapid movements, while avoiding pitched battles. Every insurgent officer killed or wounded in these little engagements is announced as a "chief."

The fact is that "the real chiefs" of the revolutions have not yet taken the field and their whereabouts are unknown. Even their identity is largely a matter of conjecture. Pablo Villar, it is pointed out, has twice been "killed" in the official dispatches. The only important government victories were at the beginning when they all but paralyzed the revolution by the capture of the steamers with one or two leaders of real importance and a large quantity of munitions and supplies. Had the government possessed the means of following these initial successes the revolution would have been at once suppressed, but they had not the advanced troops at their disposal, and they are content merely to prolong the crisis indefinitely.

ENGLISH ON ANXIOUS SEAT

Almost Total Lack of News from the Front—Runners of Fighting at Modder River.

CAPETOWN, Dec. 12.—It is reported that heavy firing was heard all day in the direction of Modder River.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—The almost complete absence of news from the theater of war up to 2:30 o'clock this afternoon increases public anxiety, so deeply stirred by Saturday's disaster, and the Boer tactics being dribbled through seem to indicate that preparations are about completed for simultaneous attacks at Tugela river and Modder river, the dispatches showing that the British and Boers were in touch in both directions Monday.

The report of another day-long battle along the Modder river, but, possibly, there has been a resumption of fighting, as reported by General Cronje last evening, as the searching lyddite shell fire of Sunday was probably preliminary to an advance. A strange item of news has reached here from Boer sources, announcing that the Wasehbach bridge is damaged. This is taken in some quarters as a possible confirmation of the suggestion that the British have made a wide sweep by way of Heilmann, and are preparing to attack the Boers north of Ladysmith in the rear.

A message from Naauwpoort dated Monday, December 11, shows that General French has, apparently, no inclination to withdraw his advanced troops at all, and no regret is feared might be the result of General Gatacre's defeat. General French reports that his artillery December 11 forced an advance post of the Boers south of Colobeg to evacuate its position and seek refuge behind Vaalpoort.

There is great indignation in Great Britain at the ignorance the British Intelligence department is displaying in estimating the Boer strength in Cape Colony. Experts have made a wide sweep by way of Heilmann of the colony before the passage of the Orange river can be commenced.

The Rhodesian force advancing to the relief of Mafeking reached Gaborone's fort December 2 and found the Boers had evacuated the place and were repairing the railroad as they advanced.

The latest news from Mafeking shows that Colonel Baden-Powell has been forced to reduce the rations of the garrison and inhabitants, but water is plentiful there.

GATACRE EXPLAINS HIS LOSS

Says Boer Guns Were Well Served on His Retreating Force—Improved Guided.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—The War office has received the following from General Forester-Walker:

"CAPETOWN, Monday, Dec. 11.—Gatacre reports as follows:

"The idea to attack Stormberg seemed to promise certain success, but the distance was underestimated by myself and the local guides. A policeman took us around for some miles and consequently we were marching from 9:30 p. m. till 4 a. m. and were landed in an impossible position. I do not consider the error intentional. The Boers commenced firing from the top of an unscalable hill and wounded a good many of our men while in the open. The Boers and Northumberland tried to turn out the enemy, but failed. The Second Irish Fusiliers seized a kopje near and held on, supported by the mounted infantry and Cape police. The guse, under Jeffreys, could not have been better handled. But I regret to say that one gun was overturned in a deep mud and another sank in quicksand. Neither could be extricated in the time available.

"Seeing the situation, I sent a dispatch to Maitland with the news. I collected and withdrew our force from ridge to ridge for about nine miles. The Boer guns were remarkably well served. They carried about 3,000 yards. I am holding Busman's Hoek and Teypergat. Am sending the Irish

Weather Stops River Work.

MAINTHEW, N. Y., Dec. 12.—(Special Telegram.)—The weather of the last few days has made necessary a temporary suspension of the work on the Erie canal. The Erie canal is now in a state of suspension of work. The water is now in a state of suspension of work. The water is now in a state of suspension of work.

Movements of Ocean Vessels, Dec. 12.

At Liverpool—Arrived—Sylvia, from Boston.

At Bremen—Arrived—H. H. Meier, from New York.

At Antwerp—Arrived (December 10)—Kent, from New York.

At Yokohama—Sailed (December 9)—City of London, for Tacoma; (December 8) Alga, for San Francisco.

At New York—Sailed—Trave, for Bremen; Hoek and Teypergat, for Liverpool.

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