PART I.

# THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

PAGES 1 TO 12.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 17, 1899—THIRTY-TWO PAGES. SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

## BIG TUNNEL SCHEME

French Engineer Plans to Construct a Bore Under Gibraltar.

IT WILL COST NEARLY THIRTY MILLION

He Avers the Undertaking Can Be Completed in Seven Years.

FEROCIOUS TIGER ATTACKS HIS TAMER

Claws and Chews a Courageous Woman in a Horrible Manner.

BIG SMUGGLING GAME IS UNEARTHED

**Jewelry and Fine Laces Smuggled Into New York by a Firm Whose Headquarters Are in Paris.**

(Copyright, 1899, by Press Publishing Co.)

PARIS, Dec. 16.—(New York World Cablegram.—Special Telegram.)—A tunnel under the Straits of Gibraltar is the latest project of Jean Berbier, an engineer well known for carrying through successfully some audacious enterprises. Several of the most sedate French engineering publications express the opinion that the plan is perfectly feasible. In connection with projected railways French goods could reach Algeria, Tunis, Morocco and the Soudan without rehandling.

Taking the cost of the St. Gothard tunnel through the Alps as a basis, Berbier estimates the cost of the Gibraltar tunnel at $22,600,000. The ground is solid rock, which is best for the purpose. The undertaking could be finished in seven years.

The Spanish government's good will has been secured by Berbier, leaving the smoothing of diplomatic difficulties in Morocco to be attended to. The tunnel would not touch English territory.

The underground tunnel now being constructed at Paris suddenly caved in two days ago in Champs Elysees near the triumphal arch L'Etoile. There was a long, thunderous rumble, then a shock causing houses to sway as in an earthquake. Into a cavity 200 feet long fell trees, lamp posts and two men, the latter afterwards being rescued. Gas escaped from the broken main, a great explosion following. The accident is attributed to the greed of the contractors, who were doing the work without sufficient bracing. The rumbling noise warned the workingmen, none of whom was permanently injured.

**Clawed by a Tiger.**

Last night at 10 o'clock a tragic scene was enacted in the Montmartre menagerie, which the ambassador of China, together with his wife and daughters, recently honored with a visit. The great Royal tiger "Mazeppa" suddenly rebelled against his famous tamer, "La Goulue," sprang upon her and when he had her down on the floor buried his teeth in her side and dragged her insensible form across the cage to the darkest corner, where he crouched, evidently settling himself comfortably for a feast of human flesh.

Experts are yet at a loss to explain what saved the girl. They say the smell of warm blood always drives a tiger into ferocious frenzy and that, unlike the lion, the tiger—even a thoroughly tamed one—when it once feels quivering live flesh between its teeth will never pause till its victim is in shreds. Mazeppa paused. He probably did not intend to reflect long on the mighty uproar that went up from the public, but the clamor surprised him. He looked up to see what was the matter; in one instant the menagerie attendants were upon him with red hot lances and forks. He clawed at these murderous things and finally caught one viciously within his great jaws. With a howl of pain he leaped to the other side, where, cowed but furious, he roared and clawed and grunted.

Meanwhile two men tamers entered the cage and took away the unconscious, bleeding girl. It was found that her whole right flank had been lacerated by the tiger's teeth. On the left shoulder the claws had torn the flesh from the bone and ugly scratches were also found on the breast. But the plucky La Goulue will, the doctors say, be spared.

She is one of the most popular figures in Paris. At one time it was the fashion to go to Moulin Rouge to see her go through the weirdest Parisian dances. Her abandoning the fiery night resort of Bohemianism to become a tamer of wild animals has not diminished her fame.

**Big Smuggling Game.**

I learn that several American detectives are working secretly here on a big smuggling game which has been going on steadily for a long time over the French, German and Dutch lines. The headquarters of the smugglers is in Paris. Several wealthy merchants are implicated. The articles principally smuggled into New York were jewelry and fine laces. Francois Bock, who was caught a month ago with 1,000,000 pearls, genuine and false, gave the American officers the clue now being followed.

Margaret Leslie, a fine looking Pittsburg heiress, today created a sensation at the skating club by her marvelous waltzing on the ice. It was her first introduction to the select company. She knew few people, but immediately captured everybody when the orchestra began to play. When she finally withdrew all the young aristocrats tumbled over each other in their anxiety to be introduced and the women members also followed Miss Leslie into the dressing room. It is predicted that her dash and beauty will create for her a social furore.

A circular is being prepared at the exposition directorial office warning all exhibitors that the opening has been irrevocably fixed for April 15. On midnight of that date everybody is expected to have driven the last nail, and all exhibitors not ready will be punished. The director general reserves the right to order out any exhibitor not ready for the opening and to dispose of the space again at will.

**Labori Wins His Suit.**

M. Labori won his suit against Libre Parole, an anti-Dreyfus paper, which had denied the lawyer was really shot. Labori gets $400 damages and the decision must be inserted in forty Paris papers and 100 in the provinces at a cost which is estimated at another $5,000, to be paid by Drumont, the editor. Labori says he will now pursue the other newspaper similarly guilty.

Women for the first time testified yesterday before the senate sitting as a high court. Baronne Adelsward and Mme. De Waru, who contributed enormous sums to the royalist campaign, both declared they understood the money was destined to found a great monarchical newspaper and not to foment a revolution.

The American Marquise De Wentworth has been back in Paris for two weeks. She reopened her series of charming American evenings last night. Among those present were: Exposition Commissioner Woodward, Prince Roland Bonaparte, Mrs. Mackay, just from London; Mr. and Mrs. Greger and Mrs. Henry Bispham. Occupying the whole side of the studio was the great Pope's portrait of the painting by which the marquise was rewarded by her present title.

**Break in a Love Story.**

The love story of Eleanor Duse and Gabriel D'Annunzio has been interrupted, perhaps broken completely, as was the love story in the writer's most famous novel, "The Triumph of Death." The actress is in Paris staying with some friends and in despair over the desertion of the man she loves so deeply. She thinks nothing of her work, nor for fame, for she lavished upon D'Annunzio all the wealth of her imperial nature. She has come to Paris because it was here that she first met him several years ago. It is a part of sentimental pilgrimage.

D'Annunzio is very fascinating to a certain kind of women. He is rather tall, with a curious, dead white complexion, and he talks brilliantly when he chooses. His intellectual gifts appealed strongly to the actress, although it was a source of wonder to her friends that a man with such an unhealthy mind could command her brilliant intellect.

They formed great plans of restoring the drama to the highest artistic plane. A man of wealth was found who, so it was said, was willing to advance the money to build the theater where only plays should be produced having artistic and classical value and no attention was to be paid to the making of money. It was a very fine scheme on paper and for a time it looked very much as if the project might be carried out, but it ended in nothing.

There was no scandal connected with the love of Duse and D'Annunzio. Her reputation saved her, although the man is true to his own principal characters. Indeed it has been his boast that his novels are taken from his own experience and that he is the hero of them. The end came ten days ago. The morbid supersensitive organism which has made D'Annunzio famous asserted itself. He was weary of the intellectual companionship of a woman much his senior. He brutally told her so and this is why Duse is in Paris wearing out her soul.

**Two Clever Artists.**

Willete and Candre, the two clever artists whose joint book of cartoons aroused the ire of Joseph Chamberlain and caused bitterness between Great Britain and France, yesterday were entertained at dinner by the Bohemian artists of Montmartre and the Latin quarter. At the reception which followed a great many literary and artistic celebrities congratulated the caricaturists. Willete and Candre announced they are working hard on another series of anti-English cartoons more vitriolic than the first.

American art students made merry on Wednesday night holding the annual minstrel show at the pretty Marigny theater, Champs Elysees. The performance was exceedingly good, as the American club is this year extraordinarily rich in talent of all sorts. The fete was under the patronage of the American and British ambassadors, both of whom were present with their families. The house was packed, as every year, with fashionable Americans. As the seats sold high the club must have netted a handsome sum.

American firms again have by far the most prominent exhibits at the Paris annual cycle show just opened. American push is making such inroads into French trade that on all sides the people affected are combining to defend themselves. Some time ago a strong effort was made to secure legislation against the American life insurance companies, which are rapidly driving the native organizations from business. The fight against American meat, wheat and machinery is constant. Now French bicycle manufacturers have called a meeting to devise means of fighting the American wheels. The circular calls attention to the fact that no less than twenty-seven American firms are doing business in Paris.

Rene de Kniff, who won the prize in the recent all-around France automobile race, is one of the men selected to defend the French colors in the international cup race next spring. The committee says the names of the United States contestants have not yet been sent to them. Everybody is anxious to know who they are.

A rumor that the kaiser intends to abolish the post of German military attache in Paris is now officially confirmed. Baron von Susskind has already been recalled. The French ministry of war said the measure could give no offense to France, since Emperor William's orders applied to all nations. He intends to suppress the institution of military attaches altogether, holding that they render no great service and are a constant cause of friction or suspicion.

## DEFEAT THE REVOLUTIONISTS

**Complete Victory for Government Forces in Venezuela Reported.**

CARACAS, Venezuela, Dec. 16.—(Via Haytien Cable.)—The government troops yesterday completely defeated those of General Hernandez, near Tocuyo, a town in the state of Barquesimeto, thirty-four miles from Trujillo.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—United States Minister Loomis, at Caracas, has cabled the State department that President Castro's forces have completely defeated the insurrectionists under General Hernandez. No details are given, but it is believed that the engagement took place near Maracaibo, as that town was in possession of Hernandez at last reports.

**SALISBURY'S SON'S WIFE DYING.**

**Trouble Weighs Heavily on Premier, Adding to Other Cares.**

(Copyright, 1899, by Press Publishing Co.)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Lady Cranborne, wife of Lord Salisbury's eldest son and daughter of the earl of Arram, is dying at Hatfield house from an internal trouble. Lord Salisbury is much attached to her and his son's sorrow is weighing on him heavily in addition to all his other cares.

**ANNA GOULD GIVES A BIG SUM.**

**Contributes $200,000 to Chapel to Commemorate Bazar Holocaust.**

(Copyright, 1899, by Press Publishing Co.)

PARIS, Dec. 16.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The chapel erected in the Rue Jean Goujon to commemorate the charity bazar fire tragedy is almost completed. Anna Gould (countess de Castellane) contributed $200,000 toward it. The religious consecration will take place with great pomp on March 1.

**Big London Improvement Scheme.**

(Copyright, 1899, by Press Publishing Co.)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The London county council has proposals before Parliament for various improvements in the water supply and sanitation and for new streets which, if adopted, will raise the indebtedness of the council $330,000,000. The schemes are undeniably of public utility, even of necessity, but Parliament will not sanction them. The council majority confesses that its only means of raising the necessary funds for such expenditures is by taxing ground values.

## CITY OF MOURNING

London Takes On a Very Somber Hue Owing to the African War.

BLACKEST CHRISTMAS SINCE THE MUTINY

Many Pathetic Scenes Are Enacted Every Day at War Office.

SADNESS AND GLOOM PERVADE THE CITY

Poor Suffer by the Absorption of Funds for War Purposes.

TALES OF CRUELTY TO THE BOERS CEASE

**Private Letters of Soldiers on This Subject Are Now Suppressed—Society Men Under Social Ban Go to War.**

(Copyright, 1899, by Press Publishing Co.)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—London is fast assuming the aspect of a city of mourning. Social activity confines itself to entertainments conducted in behalf of the charitable war funds, which already amount to nearly $3,000,000, the mansion house fund alone totaling more than $2,250,000. The theatres are suffering heavily. West End tradesmen complain they never had such a bad Christmas for presents. Private Christmas entertainments as well as hunts and county balls, characteristic of English life, have been abandoned generally.

Pathetic is the procession of wives and relatives of soldiers and officers which ceaselessly passes in and out of the doors of the war office in search of news. Sadness and gloom reign everywhere.

The general atmosphere of melancholy has been intensified by the dark and bitter weather. War funds have so completely absorbed the resources of the charitable that the ordinary Christmas collections for the poor have failed on all sides, thus meaning that the war has been brought home instantly to the neediest class of the population. Coal is dearer now even than during the great coal strike. It is predicted it will rise 25 per cent more, owing to the immense demand from the colliers by the government.

This is in fact the blackest Christmas England has faced in many years since the Indian mutiny. But the depression would be greatly relieved if some decisive success was announced.

**No More Cruelty Stories.**

There has been an almost complete cessation this week in the publication by the London papers of private letters from the officers and men at the front. Their unsophisticated accounts of the brutalities perpetrated on the Boers at Elandslaagte and elsewhere, as cabled last week, apparently caused further similar publications to be restrained.

It is also noteworthy that there have been none of the usual accusations of abuse of the white flag, firing on ambulances and so forth from Lord Methuen at Magersfontein or General Gatacre at Stormberg. The Evening News has offered payment for soldiers' letters, but it discreetly refrains from publishing them fully.

Sub-conductor Ires of the army ordnance corps writes from Elandslaagte: "When our chaps got to the top of the hills the enemy got no mercy and the Dublins and the Gordon Highlanders simply bayonetted all that came their way. Some of the Boers yelled for mercy and some feigned to be dead to escape sticking."

The Evening News leaves a hiatus here which can easily be filled.

Private F. Stewart, Gordon Highlanders, gives a picture from Elandslaagte of the furious bravery of Colonel Dick Cunningham and his orders to his men in language which tells its own tale:

."He was shot and had to sit down. 'Forward, Gordons,' he cried. 'The world is looking at you, brave lads. Give it to the beggars. Exterminate the vermin. Charge!'"

Gunner Alfred Beadnall writes from Orange river how General Gatacre shot a spy. "The most painful thing I have seen was in the case of a Dutch spy who was caught trying to poison our horses. He was tried and sentenced to be shot. The poor fellow was made to march and dig his own grave. When he had finished it he was stood over it. Then twelve soldiers marched out and had to pick up a rifle out of a group of twelve. There were six loaded and six unloaded, so none knew who shot him. The poor chap never said a word. It was all over in a few minutes."

On the other hand, testimony is borne on all sides to the humanity and kindness of the Boers, slanderous accusations against them, wherever specific, being steadily disproved.

**Simply a Fake.**

Great indignation was caused here by a circumstantial account of the finding of the bodies of three British outlanders of the irregular cavalry, tied to trees and riddled with bullets. This dispatch now comes from Pietermaritzburg: "The three British outlanders are unharmed and well treated in Pretoria."

Another revolting crime attributed to the Boers was the massacre of nine members of the town guard of Dundee after evacuation by General Yule's force. I. Rayfield, who arrived at Estcourt from Dundee, made this statement before Under Secretary Bird:

"At the time of my leaving Dundee the Boers had not interfered with any private persons, and I believe the charge of shooting members of the town guard to be absolutely false. I was myself a member of the town guard and I was on duty as a member of the town guard the day after the battle."

In view of the British protest against the alleged Boer use of "dumdum" bullets as inhuman the following statements by Mr. Weblery, head of the noted firm which manufactures the British army revolver, is remarkable. It is made in defense of his firm's revolvers as used by the British officers and in reply to a statement that the Mauser automatic pistol used by the Boers is a more effective weapon:

"A revolver is used at short distance, when it is a question whether you or the enemy dies. You must make your man drop. You may depend our 'man-stopping' bullet will do it. The bullet 'mushrooms' at low velocity. All its energy is spent after it has entered the body. The pistol bullet, on the other hand, will pass right through the body and therefore at close quarters is much inferior."

"Mushrooming" is the quality in "dumdum" bullets which makes them inhuman.

**Langtry Advertises Herself.**

Mrs. Langtry's cleverness in utilizing the war fever to work her way back into society after years of ostracism amazed everybody. She has prominently identified herself with the organization of the war charities promoted by the smart set, encouraging all her old friends at the committee meeting and moving amongst them once more something like the society queen she once was. She goes on her American tour alone. Her husband will sail for Cape Town tomorrow. Both deny absolutely that this premature separation indicates any domestic coolness—in fact it is hinted it is part of her scheme to permanently establish her social position.

Every young [illegible] who has in any way fallen under the social ban is clamoring for war service, and action in the field is the surest road to social rehabilitation. Sir Hugo de Fe[illegible] could not get employment through the office here and goes out to take service with one of the irregular cavalry corps now being raised in the colony. He has a partner, Captain Max de Bathe, already at the front. If Hugo returns with a good service recommendation when Mrs. Langtry gets back from the United States their position will be assured.

Her whole ambition now is to recover her social status. All her energies are directed to that end. She has handed over her daughter Jeanne to Mrs. Cornwallis West, mother of the princess of Pless, who is taking complete charge of her. Mrs. West was a great friend, though a rival, of Mrs. Langtry's when they were the two first professional beauties.

Mrs. Langtry will give her daughter $10,000 a year if she makes an acceptable marriage. Jeanne, who has been living with Mrs. West for the last two months in Hampshire, is growing daily more handsome. Her beautiful, clear-cut features, bright, pale skin, lovely dark eyes and fine, lithe, graceful figure all recall the best physical characteristics of the handsome Battenbergs.

Mrs. Langtry goes to Paris on Monday to get together dresses for her American tour, which she anticipates with much hope of both pleasure and profit.

## LONDON THEATRICAL GOSSIP

**Robert Taber's Health is Improving and De Wolf Hopper Scores a Great Success.**

(Copyright, 1899, by Press Publishing Co.)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Robert Taber's health is so much improved that he will undertake the actor-manager role at the Adelphi early next year. He intends to try his fortune with a new romantic drama. His acting in "Peter the Great" and Forbes Robertson's revival of "Macbeth" created high expectations here of the future.

Wyndham has accepted a new play by Haddon Chambers, entitled "The Awakening." It is said to be a play of passion, and not, like the "Tyranny of Tears," a comedy of temperament. Very many people still say they believe the latter play was really by Oscar Wilde and touched up by Chambers. It is predicted "The Awakening" will prove to be from the same source. The only thing against this theory is that Wilde seems to be really hard up in Paris and steadily becoming more so.

Zangwill's "Children of the Ghetto" is doing no good at the Adelphi. The houses are very poor and it is doubtful if the play will last over Christmas. This is entirely the fault of the play, as the talent of the chief actors is fully recognized, and a hope is expressed to see them in some more worthy work.

De Wolf Hopper has scored a success with his Anglicised version of "The Charlatan." Leading critics all speak well of "The Mystical Miss." The Times says: "The reception of the piece was most cordial, as well as deserved, for the play is an admirable specimen of its type and quite free from vulgarity." The Telegraph says: "The play was welcomed with a cordiality thoroughly unanimous. It is a piece if irresponsible extravagance set against pretty backgrounds and charming dresses." Other notices were even more favorable.

## MOROCCO A VANTAGE POINT

**Russia Seeking to Buy Cueta Stronghold on Moroccan Coast Facing Gibraltar.**

(Copyright, 1899, by Press Publishing Co.)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—My prediction of two weeks ago that Morocco is fast becoming the bone of a dangerous European international contention is now verified. Russia, according to the foreign correspondents of the chief London papers, is pressing Spain to sell Cueta, the stronghold on the Moroccan coast facing Gibraltar. By the aid of modern fortifications and armaments Cueta can be made to dominate the straits quite as effectually as Gibraltar.

The British "particular service" squadron, one of the most formidable ever mobilized, has just arrived at Gibraltar, reinforcing Britain's naval strength in that region in a most significant manner. If the channel squadron was divided into two parts, one patroling the route of the British transports between the straits and Cape Verde, the other doing the same duty along the Spanish and Portuguese coasts, the cession of Cueta to Russia would bring the whole Moroccan question instantly to a head. Russia, France and Germany are suspected of intending to combine in this scramble in view of England's serious difficulties in South Africa.

**Advance in Price of Sealskins.**

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 16.—Owners of sealing vessels have received word from London, England, today, of an advance of 40 per cent in the prices of sealskins at the sale just held. As a result of this advance, $500,000 comes to this port for skins shipped from here. The skins sold at from 64 to 68 shillings.

**Leaves Nothing to Charity.**

(Copyright, 1899, by Press Publishing Co.)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—John Gretton, owner of a fifth share in the Bass Brewery, has just died, leaving $14,315,000 personalty. Not a cent is bequeathed to charity.

**Mrs. O'Neill Acquitted.**

MONTREAL, Dec. 16.—A decision was rendered today favorable to Mrs. H. J. O'Neill of Chicago, who was arrested here some weeks ago on a charge of defrauding her creditors out of many thousands of dollars worth of goods.

**Zelaya Appoints Ministers.**

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (via Galveston, Tex.), Dec. 16.—President Zelaya has appointed Senor Fernando Sanchez minister of foreign affairs, and Senor Lugo minister of public instruction.

**Case of Plague from India.**

PLYMOUTH, England, Dec. 16.—The Peninsular and Oriental line steamer Ballarat, from Calcutta, November 15, for London, has arrived with a native Indian fireman on board suffering from the plague.

**Count Tolstoi is Better.**

MOSCOW, Dec. 16.—Count Tolstoi, the Russian novelist and social reformer, has sufficiently recovered from his illness to resume work.

**Grover Cleveland is Sick.**

PRINCETON, N. J., Dec. 16.—Former President Grover Cleveland is confined to his house with an attack of rheumatism.

## MAY KILL VICTORIA

Disastrous South African War Liable to Cost England's Queen Her Life.

BRITISH REVERSES PREY ON HER MIND

Aged Monarch Cannot Forgive Herself for Assenting to the War.

BELIEVES DEFEATS A JUDGMENT OF GOD

France or Russia is Likely to Propose Mediation Before Long.

JINGOES CALL WILDLY FOR MORE MEN

**Repetition of the Buller Disaster is Likely to Bring Salisbury's Assent and Chamberlain Will Be Thrown Overboard.**

(Copyright, 1899, by Press Publishing Co.)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—It is acutely feared in court circles that the disastrous war will kill Queen Victoria. The reverses and losses of the troops are preying incessantly on her mind and for the first time in her long life she complains of insomnia.

War office news filters to her through her private secretary, Sir Arthur Bigge, who gets it over a private telephone wire, laid specially between the War office and Windsor castle. The queen never reads the newspapers except for special reasons, but since the present defeats began, she has directed that the Times and Daily News be laid before her every morning.

When the queen is dissatisfied or doubtful about war telegrams she sends Bigge to London with a series of questions dictated by herself, to which Lord Wolseley dictates answers, which are read to the queen. Her inquiries are always pertinent and searching. Wolseley is often obliged to consult the War council in shaping his replies. Buller's reverse was telephoned to Windsor Friday night and communicated to the queen by her second secretary, Sir Fleetwood Edwards, after dinner. Bigge was already in London making special inquiries and remained till this morning.

The hope of further news and nervous anxiety are wearing on the aged queen, and pitiable scenes of grief and consternation are now almost nightly enacted at Windsor castle. She cannot forgive herself for assenting to the war, of the justice and necessity for which she was never convinced, and she believes the British reverses are the judgment of God.

**Buller Consults Butler.**

Buller, before leaving for South Africa, had a long consultation on the situation with Sir William Butler, ex-commander-in-chief of Capetown, whom the jingo press is dishonestly endeavoring to make a scapegoat for the present disasters. Buller, in conclusion, said to Butler, who is regarded really as the ablest strategist in the British army: "If any supreme need arises I shall ask Wolseley to send you out." Butler replied: "I shall go if Wolseley has courage to send me," meaning that Wolseley is too much of a popularity hunter to run in the face of public prejudice being manufactured against him. Buller, true to his word, asked for Butler after the Gatacre and Methuen reverses, but Wolseley, as Butler predicted, was afraid, and sent instead Hector McDonald, another general of Gatacre's type.

Buller's reverse is recognized as a stupendous national catastrophe. The press calls for calmness and fortitude in the face of misfortune. There is calmness—it is the calmness of ignorance and stupefaction.

The English people have lost all confidence in their generals. The jingo press can only call for more men and more guns, but thoughtful people realize that increasing the force means only increasing the sacrifice without any increased hope of success under commanders who have so gravely blundered.

**Mediation Looked For.**

Unless some unexpected triumph suddenly transforms the whole situation it is deemed certain that European mediation will be proposed by Russia or France and a world policy will be effectuated.

The English press is united in asseverating in all the moods and tenses that the war must be pursued to a triumphant end if it costs the last man, the last penny Britain can provide. The very violence of these protestations shows a consciousness of weakening, and after a few more experiences like those of Buller Salisbury will be ready enough for mediation, throwing Chamberlain to the wolves which are already howling for him.

Seeing the impregnable front that Joubert has presented to Buller's superior force at Colenso military experts believe it practically impossible that the English army can ever force a way through the Drakensburg mountains at Laing's Nek.

The panic on the stock exchange today over the news of Buller's defeat was unexampled in the memory of any living Englishman.

The opening scene was like bedlam, the jobbers shouting maniacally at each other, their faces wild with excitement, their hair disordered, all their cries and gestures being those of demented creatures. The best reputed Kaffir stocks of the Rand mines fell six points in a few minutes. Others were totally unsalable at any price. Many men were ruined in the first half hour. Some were to be seen sitting on the steps pictures of desolation and dejection.

When the first violent stage of the panic had exhausted itself the members resigned themselves to settled gloom. A more miserable collection of human beings could scarcely be found on the face of the earth. There was no hope in any quarter.

This scene is historical and forms a striking contrast to that witnessed on the declaration of war, when in rampant jingoism the stock exchange members sang "The Soldiers of the Queen" and in a cowardly vainglory dispatched the insulting cable to Kruger:

"For what you are about to receive may the Lord make you truly thankful."

**QUEEN GIVES FLAG TO THE MAINE.**

**Many of the Royalty and Nobility Present at the Ceremony.**

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The West India docks were gay this afternoon with about 6,000 prominent people, including a number of royal personages, on the occasion of the presentation of the queen's flag to the American hospital ship Maine. The duke of Connaught, surrounded by women of the committee on the poopdeck, presented the flag to Lady Randolph Churchill. He said that in the name of the queen he thanked the American men and women "here and on the other side" who had "so nobly contributed to help the English sick and wounded."

The duke also referred to the "unique occasion of a ship sailing under the union jack and the stars and stripes" as an evidence of affection existing between the two countries. Lady Randolph Churchill replied, thanking the queen and the duke of Connaught.

The bishop of Islington blessed the ship and the flag was hoisted by the duke. After several unsuccessful tugs he broke out the stops and an immense union jack with a red cross in its center flew out in the sunshine. The "Star Spangled Banner" and "God Save the Queen" were played by the Scots Guard band. The crowds cheered and the dockers clustered along the river banks joined in applause. Lady Churchill called for three cheers for the duke of Connaught, which were given heartily.

The royal party included the duchess of Connaught and Princess Louise of Lorne.

## BRITISH SCOUTS RECONNOITER

**Find Boer Laagers and Entrenchments Are Invisible at Modder River—Numbers Unknown.**

(Copyright, 1899, by Press Publishing Co.)

MODDER RIVER, Dec. 13.—12:15 a. m.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—At a distance of only 100 yards the British scouts find the Boer laagers and entrenchments are invisible. The Boers have been seen that distance walking about and they would suddenly disappear, even officers on horseback concealing themselves with ease.

The trenches must be large and deep, with such shelter that shrapnel is harmless, and even lyddite shells may be loaded. This applies to the center line or the long flanking line southeast. The Boers are only slightly protected by the natural ridges, bushes and stones. The British could not shell them because their position in the bushy ground was uncertain. It is difficult to guess at the Boer numbers.

Lieutenant Wauchope, who was wounded and spent a day in the Boer trenches, says he never saw more than 500, but the exact calculation over so extended a line is impossible. Probably about 12,000 Boers are facing General Methuen here.

The Boer losses are equally indefinite. Our wounded and prisoners say the worst Boer loss was Sunday, when they remained passive under our shelling. There are many sensational stories of the lyddite shells killing men by the score, but are all unreliable.

The shelling Monday certainly kept down the enemy's fire, but the hot fusillades whenever the British infantry moved toward the front showed the enemy was still alive.

WHIGHAM.

**British Make Reconnaissance.**

MODDER RIVER, Friday, Dec. 15.—The Ninth brigade, under Colonel Pole Carew, the Grenadier guards and a squadron of the Twelfth, made a reconnaissance, being supported by the Seventy-sixth battery howitzers on the center and right and four naval twelve-pounders on the left.

A 4.7-inch naval gun on the right opened fire at 5:30. While the brigade deployed across the plain, the howitzers shelled the Boer trenches and searched the ridges, the naval gun doing the same.

The Boers unmasked two guns, one of which was dismantled by the naval gun and the second of which it was impossible to touch. No one was killed, although a shell fell in the middle of four of the Northumberland regiment, causing all to fall, but when the smoke cleared away it was seen that the men were marching as though nothing had happened.

All the troops returned to camp. There were no casualties. General Methuen directed the operations from horseback. His wound is almost well. He intends to conduct operations from here to the northward. The camp is fortified and forms naturally an excellent base.

## PRAISES THE CANADIANS

**London Paper Thinks They Have Not Been Given Sufficient Recognition.**

(Copyright, 1899, by Associated Press.)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The St. James Gazette this week, commenting on the Canadian contingent, says: "They have shown that their long home-training and colonial campaigning experience has not been lost on them, and they are now getting their reward in being pushed to the front. We should like to see a little more notice of this taken in the London press. The colonists are intensely loyal, but they are a little sensitive and appreciative notice of the work they are doing would be good imperial cement."

General Montgomery Moore, formerly in command in Canada, has been selected to succeed General Kelly-Kenny at Aldershot, where the latter has been in charge of the mobilization.

England, with the rest of Europe, has been suddenly plunged into intensely cold weather, accompanied, in London, by dense fogs, the mercury in the country falling to 7 above zero. Skating has begun and hunting has been suspended.

With the inspection of the American hos-

(Continued on Eighth Page.)

## THE BEE BULLETIN.

Weather Forecast for Nebraska—
Fair; Colder; Northerly Winds.

Page.
1 Scheme to Tunnel Gibraltar.
London a City of Mourning.
Victoria Grieves Over the War.
Latest News from Africa.
2 Close of the Currency Debate.
3 Nebraska News.
Hoxie Retires from Kearney.
Allen will Take His Seat.
6 Omaha Society News.
8 Labor Opposes All Subsidies.
Saturday's Sporting Events.
9 Business Conditions in Omaha.
Barbers Would Raise Prices.
10 Museum of National Relics.
Church Notices.
11 Iowa News and Comment.
Hardships in the Far North.
News from the Philippines.
12 Affairs at South Omaha.
14 In the Domain of Woman.
15 Children's Department.
16 Weekly Sporting Review.
17 With the Wheels and Wheelmen.
Physical Training Indoors.
18 Mormon View of Roberts Case.
19 "The Isle of the Winds."
20 Ways of the Money Sharks.
A Soldier's Christmas.
22 Weekly Amusement Review.
Weekly Musical Review.
23 Preachers Before Scott Again.
Shops Full of Christmas Goods.
Voting Machines May Be Barred.
24-5 Council Bluffs Local Matters.
26 Editorial and Comment.
27 Lively Times with the Hoboes.
Annual Output of Books.
28 "The Christmas Frolic."
20 Condition of Omaha's Trade.
Commercial and Financial News.
31 Hunting Wolves Out West.
Echoes of the Ante Room.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5 a. m. | 22 | 12 m. | 31 |
| 6 a. m. | 23 | 1 p. m. | 32 |
| 7 a. m. | 23 | 2 p. m. | 33 |
| 8 a. m. | 25 | 3 p. m. | 33 |
| 9 a. m. | 25 | 4 p. m. | 35 |
| 10 a. m. | 26 | 5 p. m. | 36 |
| 11 a. m. | 28 | 6 p. m. | 34 |
| | | 7 p. m. | 31 |

## LIST OF CASUALTIES

Buller Reports Over Thousand Killed, Wounded and Missing.

REVISED LIST FROM MAGERSFONTEIN

Shows a Total of Over Nine Hundred, Including Seventy Officers.

BLACK WATCH HEAVIEST SUFFERERS

Pretoria Receives Official Report of Engagement on Modder River.

INFUSES NEW SPIRIT INTO BOER ARMY

**Captures a Great Quantity of Loot, Including Rifles, Cartridges and Hundreds of Bayonets from General Methuen's Army.**

LONDON, Dec. 16.—General Buller reports to the War office that his losses in yesterday's engagement were: Killed, 82; wounded, 667; missing, 348; a total of 1,097.

The revised list of British casualties at the battle of Magesrsfontein shows the total to be 963, of which seventy were officers.

The Black Watch were the heaviest sufferers. Of the rank and file forty-two were killed, 182 were wounded and 111 are missing.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The War office late tonight issued the following list of General Buller's casualties. Killed:

Field Artillery—Captain A. H. Goldie and Lieutenant C. B. Schrieber.

Dublin Fusiliers—Captain A. H. Bacon and Lieutenant R. C. B. Henry.

Inniskillin Fusiliers—Major Darley and Captain Frank C. Loftus.

Medical Corps—Captain M. I. Hughes.

Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry—Lieutenant C. M. Jenkins.

Officers wounded:

Devonshire regiment, five; Rifle Brigade (The Prince Consort's Own), one; Fifth brigade, staff, one; Inniskillin Fusiliers, eight; Border regiment, three; Connaught Rangers, two; Dublin Fusiliers, three; Irish Fusiliers, one; horse artillery, one; field artillery, five; medical corps, mounted infantry, three; Natal Carbineers, two; South African Light Horse, two.

The wounded include Captains N. J. Goodwin, J. F. Radcliffe, P. U. W. Vigors, Hon. St. Leger Jarvis, A. J. Hancock, W. F. Hoey, E. J. Breckley, J. E. S. Probyn, H. M. S Lewan, J. E. R. Brush, H. D. White-Thompson, H. I. Reed, F. A. G. Elton and W. N Congreve; Majors R. N. G. Heygate, A. W Gordon and F. A. B. Racington; Colonels I G. Brooke, Long, H. H. Hunt and Lieutenant Ponsonby of Thornycroft's mounted infantry.

Officers taken prisoners or missing: Field artillery, five; Devonshire regiment, three; Essex regiment, one; Royal Scots Fusiliers, six; Royal artillery, three.

**Renews the Boers' Spirits.**

PRETORIA, Wednesday, Dec. 13.—An official dispatch from the Modder river says: "The Boers captured a great quantity of loot, including 200 Lee-Metfords, cases of cartridges and hundreds of bayonets. Great numbers of the British have retired from Twee-Rivieren in the direction of Belmont. The loss of the British was very great. There were heaps of dead on the field. The wounded are being attended to, temporarily, at Bissel's farm. The sappers and miners must have suffered severely. The Boers suffered heavy losses in horses. I cannot otherwise describe the battlefield than as a sad and terrible slaughter. Monday was for us a brilliant victory. It has infused new spirit into our men and will enable them to achieve greater deeds."

PRETORIA, Wednesday, Dec. 13.—Advices from Mafeking say an attack on a small British fort has been made with good results. The fort was demolished. Heavy cannon firing is proceeding.

Colonel Baden-Powell has sent the Boers a notice, advising them to lay down their arms and return to their homes, promising them that protection will be given them as soon as Great Britain has taken over the Transvaal.

**News from Seat of War Scarce.**

LONDON, Dec. 17.—Beyond a partial list and a summary of the totals of the casualties in the Tugela river engagement posted at about midnight the War office professes not to have any news from the seat of war, while the censorship evidently blocks other channels of information.

Never within the range of the longest memory has Great Britain met with three such military reverses in a single week and hence it is not surprising that notes of anxiety should be heard amid the general chorus of press expressions of grim philosophy and resignation.

Mr. Asquith's speech at Newcastle last evening fairly expresses the moderate average opinion of the situation. A more radical view, which, however, has few open followers, was echoed by Sir Wilfrid Lawson in an address to the liberals of Carlisle. He expected the government, after bringing the country to a verge of war with America, Russia, Germany and France, to have plunged it into war with South Africa, through incompetent diplomacy. He thought the people should insist upon the government stating its terms so that everybody might see what it was fighting for.

At the Army and Navy and other clubs the general impression is that the check is only temporary.

The government view is probably voiced by Right Hon. Walter Long, president of the Board of Agriculture, who, speaking at the Ship Brokers' dinner in Liverpool last evening, intimated that the cabinet committee on national defense had considered the advisability of utilizing the militia and volunteers for service abroad. He emphatically asserted that the government in no way attempted to interfere with the generals in their military operations.

Some say that another 100,000 troops are wanted and, declared Mr. Long, if the government does not purpose to send them it will be wanting in its duty to the country. For his own part, Mr. Long said he failed to see that the necessity had arisen, but if it does arise, the 100,000 will be forthcoming and they will be sent immediately.

**BOERS DRIVEN FROM TRENCHES.**

**Advices from Mafeking that English Make a Successful Sortie.**

(Copyright, 1899, by Press Publishing Co.)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—(New York World Cablegram — Special Telegram.)—Advices from Mafeking, December 6, via Moshudi Boirad and Lourenzo Marquez: The Bechuanaland Rifles ousted the Boers from the trench north of the town on Saturday. Yesterday both sides were flooded from their trenches by an abnormal rain. The Boers were worse off. On issuing they were fired on by maxims. Having no shelter, four casualties resulted from a shell bursting. All well.

BAILLIE.