

# The Watchman and Southron.

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"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's."

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## WAR IN AFRICA.

Strict Censorship Still Maintained.

London, Dec 6, 4 30 a. m.—The censorship continues to be of the strictest character. Virtually no news is allowed to pass except diaries of events within the beleaguered garrisons and positions.

According to the latest accounts of the battle of Modder river, the Boer fire was the hottest on record and will revolutionize existing theories. It was effective up to 1,600 yards, but the casualties among the prone troops was trifling. It was found impossible to bring the British ammunition reserves to the firing line. Many Boers wearing Red Cross badges were actually employed in serving out ammunition.

In connection with the many accusations against the Boer indifference to the laws of war, a letter published in Cape Town asserts that before the Transvaal ultimatum was sent the Boer leaders discussed the policy of using the white flag, when driven into a corner, in order to deceive the British commanders, and this policy was generally approved.

It is reported that the mobilization of a seventh division will be ordered at Aldershot, as a preparation for emergencies.

The war office today received the following dispatch from Gen Forestier-Walker, under date of Dec 5:

"Gen Methuen reported that at Modder river he found 23 bodies and that 27 bodies have since floated to the surface of the river. The people say that some bodies were buried and that others were taken on mules to Jacobabad, where the English wounded were also taken. Commandant Albrecht's wagon perfectly fitted up as a pharmacy and surgery, was captured. The enemy's loss was more than ours and their morale has been much shaken.

The following is a Boer version of the battle of Modder river:

"Pretoria, Wednesday, Nov 29.—Delarey's official report states that a large force of British yesterday morning attacked his command at Modder river. Heavy fighting lasted for hours. Cronje and Delarey took up strong positions, the Free Staters being reinforced. Delarey had 17 killed and wounded, including his eldest son. The Free Staters losses are unknown. At dark the Boers retired slowly to their positions, having prevented the British from forcing their way to Kimberley."

Awaiting on Battlefield Arrival of Supplies and Arms.

London, Dec 7, 4 30 a. m.—Again there is a complete lull in news from the seat of war. Ladysmith has established heliographic communication with Frere, and it is reported that all was well up to Sunday. A dispatch from the Boer laager, by the way of Lorenzo Marques, dated Thursday, Nov 30, confirms the report that the commandoes have been closing in upon Ladysmith and mounting big guns in new positions. According to the same advices a heavy cannonade has been maintained and a general assault had been ordered for Thursday morning but was countermanded at the last moment.

Modder river dispatches say that the Boers are encamped amid the hills half way to Kimberley; but it is also asserted that a large body of the enemy has gone in the direction of Jacobabad. It is possible, therefore, Lord Methuen may endeavor to clear his right flank as far as Jacobabad before continuing his advance. He is still waiting at Modder river for stores, guns and ammunition.

## THE BOER LOSSES.

London, Dec 6.—A dispatch from Ladysmith, dated Monday, Nov 27, says: "Have plenty of food, water and ammunition."

The war office has received the following from Gen Buller: Pietermaritzburg, Tuesday, Dec 5.—It is very difficult to make any statement in regard to the enemy's loss. For instance, at Belmont 81 of their dead were accounted for. The enemy gave 15 as the number of

killed. There is every reason to believe that the enemy's loss in the fight at Ladysmith, Nov 9, was over 800 killed and wounded. Information from a trustworthy Boer source shows that at Hildyard's fight, Nov 23, the enemy lost 30 killed and 100 wounded. It is impossible to say how far these numbers are correct, but it is evident the enemy does not admit a tenth of the losses suffered. Intercepted dispatches to Joubert from a commander show that even official dispatches contain decidedly inaccurate information in this respect.

## ON THANKSGIVING DAY.

Ladysmith, Saturday, Dec 2.—The hottest bombardment of the siege took place last Thursday. The Boers got a new big gun in position on Lombard's kop, completely commanding the town, and shelled our camp that day and yesterday, planting shells with great accuracy in the camp of the Gordon Highlanders and the Manchester regiment, where there were narrow escapes. Today the enemy resumed the bombardment, doing some effective shooting. Several of our guns have been shattered by the Boer big guns.

## ACTIVE ABOUT STROMBERG.

Queenstown, Cape Colony, Saturday, Dec 2.—The Boers have become very active in the country around Stromberg Junction, to which Gen Gatacre will make his next move.

The telegraph lines have been cut in various places and communication with Steynburg, Dordrecht and Maraisburg has been severed. It is believed here that the Boers have occupied Steynburg. Firing has been heard in the direction of Stromberg, probably between Gen Gatacre's vanguard and the Boer commander.

## Gen. Buller at the Front.

About to Advance to Relief of Ladysmith.

London, Dec 8, 5 a. m.—General Buller's arrival at Frere is held to indicate that all the preparations for an advance to the relief of Ladysmith are complete and that stirring news will soon be received. The fact that Lord Methuen is announced as resuming his command at almost the same moment is interpreted in some quarters to mean that battles will be fought simultaneously in Natal and at Spytfontein. It appears doubtful, however, whether Gen Methuen's force is yet ready for what will eventually be a heavy encounter.

The construction of the temporary bridge across Modder river has entailed enormous labor; and even now the structure is liable to be washed away should a heavy storm come. Gen Methuen has been obliged to move his camp a mile north in consequence of the unsanitary state of the stream, due to the presence of the bodies of dead Boers. As the railway bridge was completely destroyed, he was compelled to leave a considerable force to protect his communications. A special correspondent sends the interesting information regarding Boer tactics that Commandant General Joubert has given general orders to reserve fire until the British are within the close range of 400 yards. At the Modder river battle the Free State burghers became nervous, opened fire prematurely, thus revealing their position, and frustrated the Boer plans.

The government has decided to dispatch to South Africa at the earliest possible moment, a cavalry brigade of about 4,000 men. A special dispatch from Modder river says everything points to the fact that a great engagement will be fought at Spytfontein. The Boers are massing on the hills there, are vigorously building stone fortresses and are digging rifle pits in every direction. The Boers' redoubts on Luzzetto ridge, west of Kimberley, are also being extended and strengthened, showing that the rumors of the intention of the Boers to abandon the attempt to stem Gen Methuen's advance are unfounded.

The British have shifted their camp a few hundred yards away from the battlefield and are retiring down for a week. There are some cases of fever among the troops. Much depends on Gen Gatacre's advance. There is undoubtedly a large concentration of Boers ahead of Gen Methuen. Practically the whole of their fighting forces have joined the Kimberley besiegers.

An official account of the sortie at Kimberley Nov 23, when the British casualties, as cabled yesterday, occurred says: "The British demonstrated towards Wimbledon ridge. The enemy's guns were positioned from the ridge at Spytfontein to Wimbledon siding. Major Scott Turner, with the mounted troops attacked the enemy's right flank, capturing a laager and three redoubts. The enemy, in a fourth redoubt, made a stubborn resistance, when Major

Scott Turner was killed. The British captured many shells and destroyed other stores.

The same dispatches give reports from Col Kekewich, dated Dec 3 and 4, showing the Boers were increasing in numbers around Kimberley.

The Boer advance in the northeastern part of Cape Colony is becoming remarkable. The local farmers are flocking to the Boer laagers. The town's people, in many instances, welcoming the invaders with every demonstration of joy. The annexation of British territory proceeds daily. The reported Boer successes have made a great impression among the Basutos.

## JULIAN RALPH'S REPORT

London, Dec 8.—The Daily Mail publishes a dispatch from Julian Ralph, at Modder river, who says: "The Kimberley people are troubled by the necessity of feeding 10,000 Basutos in the diamond fields whom the Boers refuse to allow to depart and who, should they fail to get enough to eat, would become discontented and restless. On the night of Modder river, Kimberley, missing the accustomed signals from here, was in great anxiety fearing that we had been defeated. The fact was that we did not use our search light for fear the Boer's would wreck the apparatus. Five hundred and thirty Boers were killed or wounded in the battle here. That number has already been accounted for, and the enemy's losses were probably much heavier."

Gens Buller's and Methuen's Forces Can Continue to Advance.

London, Dec 9, 4 50 a. m.—Lord Methuen's restoration of the railway, while relieving a load of anxiety here, accentuates the dangers still threatening his forces. It is gathered from the brief official dispatch that Commandant Prius Loos' contingent was taken between forces acting from Belmont and southward from Modder river. It is quite possible, however, that reinforcements were sent to Belmont merely as a precautionary measure.

There is little other news of importance. Reports continue to come from Ladysmith that dissension exists among the Boers and especially that the Orange Free State troops are discontented. There are also all kinds of rumors of movements of commandoes from place to place, but the fact is that little is known here regarding the actual position of the Boer forces. Moreover, the rumors of a collapse of Boer spirit have been heard so often as not to cause much satisfaction.

Gen Forestier-Walker has sent the following dispatch, dated at 9 o'clock last Friday evening, to the war office, from Cape Town:

"Telegraph and railway communication to Modder river has been reopened. A battery of field artillery and a battalion of infantry were dispatched from Modder river against Commandant Prius Loos' force of 1,000 Boers, with one gun, who had destroyed the railway. Our losses were 14 in wounded."

Belmont has been strengthened by infantry and two guns and a cavalry regiment and troops from Nasirpoort occupied Arunde. Thursday. The enemy's forces near Gen Gatacre are reported as follows: "At Dordrecht 800 marching from Jamestown to Dordrecht, 700, with six guns; at Stormburg, 1,700; at Waterfall, a large force, strength unknown; at Molteno about 400."

Lord Methuen reports casualties Dec 6 on patrol duty, as follows: Missing; Lieut. Tristan and four men of the Twelfth Lancers; wounded, four men.

The war office has just issued the following: "No further news has arrived from Gen Methuen today, but the following has been received from Orange river station:

"A railroad culvert was blown up near Graas Pan this morning. The telegraph was also cut. The guides report heavy firing of guns toward the north."

The foregoing implies that the Boers have cut the line of communication behind Gen Methuen, who apparently is now fighting.

The Times has the following from Modder river dated Tuesday, Dec 5: "The river is low and the railway bridge is rapidly approaching completion. The first train will cross tonight. After extraordinary exertions the pontoon bridge has been completed."

BRITISH ADVANCE ON COLENSO.

Pretoria, Thursday, Dec 7.—The following dispatch dated today has been received from the head laager near Ladysmith: "The British are advancing on Colenso, but last night passed without an attack. There was a desultory cannonade this morning, the naval guns at Ladysmith replying vigorously to our fire."

New York, Dec 6.—A seat in the New York stock exchange was today sold for \$40,000, the highest price ever paid.

## The Hunt For Aguinaldo.

Gen Young Arrives at Santa Cruz.

Manila, Dec 4—10 30 p. m.—An Associated Press dispatch from Santa Cruz, province of Ilocos forwarded by courier to San Fabian, says that Gen Young, with three troops of the 3d cavalry and Major Peyton C March's battalion of the 33d infantry, arrived at Santa Cruz today. The Americans left Hamapacan Province of Union, this morning expecting to have a hard fight at Tagudin, in South Ilocos province, but they found, or arriving there, that 600 rebels, under Gen Tino, had evacuated thirty-six hours before deserting an almost impregnable position.

The insurgents had been entrenched at Tagudin, on the north side of the river where a hundred well disciplined troops could have slaughtered a whole brigade crossing the river, with the men up to the arm pit in water.

The residents of Tagudin received the Americans outside the town with a brass band. They had been robbed of almost everything by the insurgents and were glad to welcome friendly and protecting troops. A similar reception awaited Gen Young at Santa Cruz. Prominent citizens headed by a band escorted the American officers to houses, where rest and refreshments were offered.

Gen Young's command was almost without food. The men had been living on the country, which affords but little, and the horses were completely worn out, most of them without shoes.

Gen Young's desire is to pursue the rebels into the mountains. There is no communication between his small command and any of the other American columns, except indirectly, perhaps, by sighting and signalling United States gunboats bound to or from Manila.

Capt Rumbold, with 35 men of Company G, 32d infantry, while escorting the signal corps laying the wire from Porac to Florida Bance, charged and routed seventy insurgents, killing a captain and several privates. The Americans found on the captain a sword and revolver that were taken from the body of Naval Cadet Welborn C Wood, who was killed by the insurgents while in command of the gunboat Udaneta when that vessel was captured in the Orani River.

AGUINALDO IN A STRONG-HOLD.

Manila, Dec 4—11 p. m.—An Associated Press dispatch from Dagupan, containing advices later than those from Santa Cruz says that Gen Young hopes to find Aguinaldo in Benguet Mountain Pass and to capture him there. Benguet entrances to Benguet are fortified. Two troops of the 3d cavalry will reinforce Gen Young in the pass.

SKIRMISH NEAR MIGUEL.

Manila, Dec 5—9 05 a. m.—Col Hood, while reconnoitering near San Miguel, drove a force of insurgents from Idefonso, killing several. Five Americans were slightly wounded.

Heavy Force Insurgents Got Into Streets During Night.

Washington, Dec 6.—Gen Otis today cabled the war department that he has had no word of Gen Young for a week. This is taken to indicate that Young is continuing his hot pursuit of Aguinaldo and probably is in a country where he regards it as unsafe to use couriers.

Gen Otis' dispatch which follows, also gives an official account of Lieut Col Parker's engagement at Vigan:

"Manila, Dec 6.—Gen Young with 13 companies of infantry and nine troops cavalry not heard since 29th ultimo. He was then about 20 miles south Vigan and most of the troops marching to his support, but then had with him three troops cavalry battalion Thirty third infantry and Macabebe scouts. One company Thirty third infantry sent by boat to Vigan to reinforce navy there Lieut Col Parker. Forty fifth, reports from Vigan 5th inst that he has not heard from Young for a week. Insurgents, 800 strong, made attack on his force, consisting B company and 153 sick and foot sore men Thirty third infantry, 4 o'clock morning 4th. Entering city in darkness severe street fighting ensued; continued four hours, enemy driven out, leaving behind 40 dead 32 prisoners, including many officers and 84 rifles; now on outskirts entrenching. Parker says can hold out indefinitely; plenty rations and ammunition. His loss eight enlisted men killed, three wounded. One hundred and sixty men now being transported from San Fabian to his relief; Young must be in vicinity with large force."

Believe Aguinaldo is Back in Cavite.

Filipino Chief has his Greatest Strength in That Province.

Manila, Dec 7, 11 p. m.—The expectation of catching Aguinaldo in the north has been practically abandoned and the probability is that he will return southward if he is not already there, with his destination Cavite province, his home, where the insurrection began, and where it has the greatest strength. The Filipino soldiers in that province have recently been showing increased enthusiasm and boldness and captured insurgents say that Aguinaldo is coming to join them with a large army. The same belief prevails among the natives at Manila and elsewhere that Aguinaldo intends to make his headquarters in Cavite province.

There are about 3,000 insurgents before Imus and Bacoor, keeping the Americans sleeping on their arms and nightly awaiting attack. The Filipinos have several cannon. The first mayor of Imus under the American regime, who ultimately deserted, is their leader in the assaults and is ambitious to take the town. Three soldiers of the Fourth infantry have deserted and are now with the enemy. Most of the inhabitants of Imus are so strong in their sympathies with the insurgents that it is necessary to use a part of the regiment to patrol the streets and to prevent shooting from houses whenever an attack begins.

The American forces in the north have separated into many small commands and are pursuing bands of Filipinos. Gen MacArthur is engaged in clearing the mountain country west of the Manila Dagupan railroad. Gen Grant is moving from Angeles toward Subig with 400 men. Col Bell is sweeping south from Mangataren. Thus far the American commanders have been unable to locate large bodies of insurgents, although there were about 500 in San Clementine, nine miles south of Mangataren, early in the week. Col Hood, with the Sixteenth regiment and cavalry and Gen Lawton with a force from San Isidro are operating against Gen Pilar's army in the San Mateo valley. Maj Batchelor with a battalion of the Twenty-fourth infantry is making a daring expedition. He left Bayambang, province of Nueva Vizcaya, a week ago to march through Cagayan valley to the north coast of Luzon, intending to reach Aparri, at the mouth of the Cagayan river, the most important northern seaport of the island. While no large forces are known to be in his path, it may be that he has had some fighting, although the friendliness of the inhabitants is counted upon to help him. When he arrives at Aparri he will find a gunboat awaiting him. The Spanish prisoners in the Benguet region are escaping from the Filipinos and are flocking into Vigan. Several hundred are there already, and a steamer will go to bring them to Manila.

Insurgents Fooled by Reports of Victories.

Washington, Dec 8.—Gen Otis today cabled the war department in regard to the uprising in Negros as follows: "Manila, Dec 8.—I am informed the outbreak of natives in the district of South Negros was the result of reported great insurgent victories in Luzon Panay, which the natives believe. The extent of the outbreak not ascertained. Lieut A C Ledyard Sixth infantry, killed, two privates wounded. One of our chief difficulties arises from the circulation of falsehoods among the natives, defamatory newspaper articles of United States and Europe promptly published in Spanish in San Francisco, Madrid and by Hong Kong junks and circulated in Philippines. Insurgents have based all hopes upon false rumors."

Montgomery, Ala, Dec 7.—Word reached here from Crenshaw county that the 11-year old son of Widow Rhodes shot and killed William Jones and mortally wounded John Pruitt, while they were attempting to force an entrance into his mother's home. They battered down the door with a fence rail when the boy fired.

Think They Have the Train Robber.

Bartow Warren, a Young White Man, Arrested on Suspicion.

Special to The State.—Charleston, Dec 6.—Bartow Warren, who was arrested by the detectives at the Southern depot last night, was sent to Orangeburg this morning.

The sledge hammer, which was found on the platform of the express car after the robbery, served as a most valuable clue in the arrest of Warren. On the hammer was noticed a private mark and upon inquiry at all of the hardware stores in the city it turned out that it was one which a few days before the robbery had been purchased from Lazarus on King street.

Mr Simons, a clerk in the store, remembered having sold the hammer and last night he identified Warren as the man who made the purchase.

What connection the woman who was with Warren last night when he was arrested has with the robbery if any, is not known. She, it is said, was traveling with him as his wife, but it is not believed that they are lawfully married. She left the station house last night in company with two men, unknown to the police, and where she went to was not given out by the police today. J. B.

THE EVIDENCE AGAINST WARREN.

Information given to a representative of The State last night by a gentleman who had been about the detectives yesterday, indicates that there is considerable circumstantial evidence against Warren. He is said to be a farmer who lives but a few miles from Branchville, and after the robbery he was tracked and followed by detectives to Charleston, where he spent money freely and was having a jolly good time when arrested. That is the story, and it will be seen today whether the detectives have anything more in reserve.

A NATIVE OF BAMBERG.

Special to The State.

Orangeburg, Dec 6.—Bartow Warren, the man arrested in Charleston last night and suspected of the robbery of the express car near Branchville last Friday night, was brought here this morning by Detectives Hogan and Miller and lodged in the county jail. The prisoner is a fine-looking young fellow, probably about 28 years of age, was well dressed and seemed to be making the best of his unavoidable position. No statement could be obtained from him nor from the authorities but it is understood that Warren will be given a preliminary hearing some time tomorrow.

Messrs. Sadler and Richardson, Southern Express officials, also the two messengers, Sanders and Rhodes, were in the city all day. Sadler and Richardson left tonight but will probably return to be here at the hearing tomorrow. The whole affair is shrouded in mystery and it is simply impossible to obtain any information relating to the facts of the case. While no statement could be obtained from the prisoner, several remarks were made by him, from which any one could infer that it is barely possible that he knows something about the robbery. This is merely an inference, nothing more, but on the other hand Warren also asserts (naturally, of course,) his innocence.

The prisoner is said to be a native of Bamberg County, well connected, and, judging from his appearance, he lacks anything but a train robber. Important developments are expected at the hearing tomorrow.

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## Aguinaldo.

Aguinaldo is a sly fox and a "slick" fellow. We have captured, up to date, his private secretary, twelve barrels of his wife's wardrobe, his son, his mother, Hon. Mr Buencamino, the Thomas Jefferson of the Filipino republic (author of its constitution), Aguinaldo's hat, which he lost on his Joba Gilpin ride to get out of Gen Wheaton's way, but we still lack Aguinaldo himself. It would not be surprising to hear of his being killed by the hostile tribes he is heading for or his escaping from the coast somewhere in a ship, and, by the way, what will we ever do with him if we get him?—Charlotte Observer.

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