

# The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

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

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## SERIOUS REPORTS FROM CAPE COLONY

### The Cape Dutch Are Giving Aid to the Boers.

London, Dec 25—"We learn," says the Daily Mail, "that the reports of the serious situation in Cape Colony are fully confirmed. The invading Boers are receiving much assistance from the Cape Dutch. Railway communication between Cape town and the north is almost entirely severed, partly by Boer operations and partly by rains."

London, Dec 25, 4 20 a. m.—There is no sign of the despondency which characterized "Black December" last year. At the same time the Christmas editorials had little cause for extreme satisfaction. All express regret that the nation is still at war. Some take the trouble to remind their readers that there are four times as many Boers in South Africa now as there were 12 months ago, and all engaged in a monotonous round of wearisome fighting against an ever evasive foe and with the sympathy of friends at home as this festive season.

### NO COMMON FOE.

The Standard, which says that Christmas finds the British people in a chastened mood, moralises upon the strange lack of political foresight regarding the character and the wisdom of the operation against the Boers. It confesses that "everything has long since been done that would have been possible to end the war if we had been contending against European powers." It is confident, however, that the settlement is only a question of time.

Lord Kitchener's departure to De Aar would be sufficient to explain the absence of official news.

Elaborate preparations are being made to give Lord Roberts a popular welcome Jan. 3. Ten thousand troops will be gathered in London to line the route to Cuckingham.

### The Fate of Cape Colony From a British Point of View.

London, Dec 26—The position of Cape Colony is hanging in the balance. According to the Morning Post's Cape Town correspondent everything depends upon the quantity of ammunition in possession of the disloyal Dutch residents, fifteen hundred of whom have joined the Boers in the Philipstown district alone.

Energetic measures have been taken to stem the invasion, but there is unquestionably danger that parties of Boers will get through into parts of the colony and gradually raise the whole Cape into rebellion. Reinforcements can arrive none too soon.

Most of the dispatches from Cape town, however, describe the raiders as doing little harm and as being rapidly enclosed by Lord Kitchener's combination. Lord Kitchener is in the heart of the disaffected districts. He has the advantage of being personally acquainted with local conditions. Last March he supervised the suppression of the rising which occurred there. He is bringing down thousands of troops from the north.

The Standard's Cape Town correspondent says the loyalists demand that martial law shall be proclaimed throughout Cape Colony. But adds: "Such a step is now impossible, owing to the lack of sufficient troops to enforce it."

Civil railway traffic has been suspended largely in all parts of the colony, and the movements of both the Boers and the British are almost unknown in Cape Town. The Boer column attacked Steynsburg, but was repulsed and fled, trenching itself in the mountains. Another Boer commando captured a party of police at Venterstad. Mounted colonial troops surprised 300 Boers 15 miles from Burgersdorp, Dec 23, and after a brisk exchange of volleys retired with a loss of two men.

The Cape Town correspondent of Times telegraphs that scarcely a Cape Colonist have joined the invaders.

Thirty thousand lepers are reported to the Philippines. Will returning soldiers from the Philippines start leprosy in the United States?

## Boers Get a Good Christmas Dinner.

Captured Methuen's Christmas Luxuries.

ALSO A SQUADRON OF YEOMANRY.

Zerust, Transvaal, Dec 24—The Boers captured two wagons containing Christmas luxuries destined for the camp of Lord Methuen.

Cape Town, Dec 26—A squadron of Yeomanry, which had followed the Boers from Britstown, is reported to have been entrapped. There were several casualties. It is said that the remainder of the force was captured.

### THE ENGLISH DISTURBED.

London, Dec 27, 2 30 a. m.—The paucity and obscurity of the dispatches from South Africa give rise to renewed anxiety. Apparently the disturbed area of Cape Colony extends further south than it did last December and Lord Kitchener does not appear to have had much success as yet in driving back the invaders.

The war office had received no news last evening of the reported capture of Yeomanry near Britstown.

A Burgersdorp dispatch has a mysterious reference to "an unfortunate mistaking of the enemy for Brabant's horse," which resulted in the sounding of "cease fire," and enabled the Boers to occupy all the commanding positions, the British retreating from a difficult predicament.

Gen. Clemens' success against the Boers in the Magaliesberg region is also doubtful, the last dispatch reporting that "it was considered advisable not to force the Boers from their positions."

The British press continues in the main optimistic, but the condition of affairs brings home the enormous difficulties that will face Lord Kitchener in patrolling and policing such immense tracts of country, even when the Boers shall be finally subdued.

The Daily Mail, which makes a strong appeal to the government to "face the facts and send Lord Kitchener more troops," says: "There is a real risk in being lulled to sleep by carefully censored messages."

### Leprosy in the Philippines.

Washington, Dec 26—An appended report to Gen. MacArthur's review of the civil affairs of the Philippines for the past fiscal year, gives some rather startling facts regarding the instruction and prevalence of leprosy in the islands.

According to the estimation of the Franciscan fathers, says Major Gay L. Edie, the write of the report, "there are no less than 30,000 lepers in the archipelago, the major portion of these being in the Visayas."

Leprosy was introduced in 1633 when the emperor of Japan sent a ship with 150 lepers on board to the Philippines, a present to be cared for by the Catholic priests. Thus the seed was planted, and as no practical methods were ever adopted to eradicate the disease or prevent its spread, it has taken firm root, and spread into its present formidable phase.

A house to house inspection inaugurated last January found more than a hundred lepers concealed in dwellings. These were sent to San Lazaro hospital in Manila, but many others escaped into the surrounding country. A commission is now engaged in the work of selecting a suitable island or islands for the purpose of isolating all the lepers in the archipelago.

### Thirty-One Cotton Mill Companies Chartered During the Year.

Columbia, Dec 26—During the year just closed Secretary of State Cooper granted charters to thirty-one cotton milling companies, whose authorized capital aggregates \$4,850,000. During the same time permission was given fourteen cotton milling companies to increase their capital, aggregate increase capital authorized being \$2,945,000. During the same period commissions were issued to twelve cotton milling company incorporators who have not yet obtained their charters, whose authorized capital will be \$1,495,000.

### FIGHTING IN MEXICO.

El Paso, Texas, Dec 26—Mexican troops in Sonora, Mexico, were recently attacked by a band of Yaqui Indians, and four officers and about 30 men were killed outright. The soldiers were fired on from ambush near Lamisa, about 150 miles from Gen. Torres' headquarters. Col. Francis Penade, of the leading officers in the army, was seriously wounded.

## The Boers and the British.

Newcastle, Natal, Dec 27—The Boers celebrated Christmas in the district between Standerton and Ingogo by more or less determined attacks upon every British garrison along the lines of communication. These, however, were in all cases successfully repulsed. At Utrecht the Boer commandant sent in a demand for whiskey, cigars and Christmas luxuries, failing which he threatened to attack the town. His demand was ignored, and the Boers attacked Utrecht in strong force Christmas morning. They were repulsed with loss, the British casualties being slight.

### GEN KITCHENER'S REPORT.

London, Dec 27—The following dispatch has been received from Lord Kitchener:

Pretoria, Dec 26.—Knox, with Barker, Picheur and White, is engaged with De Wet's force, holding a position in the neighborhood of Leuwkop.

De Wet hopes to break through and go south again.

"The Boers' eastern column in Cape Colony is apparently headed by our troops about Reitport Spruit. The Boers' western column is reported to have gone north in two portions, one towards Prieska and the other through Sleydenburg. They are being followed up."

### THE BOERS CHECKED.

London, Dec 28, 3 a. m.—The latest dispatches from South Africa show that Lord Kitchener has succeeded in holding the invading Boers in check. But he has not been successful in expelling them from Cape Colony, while small commandos continue to display astonishing daring and activity over an immensely wide field.

It is questionable whether his proclamation will have much effect until Gen. De Wet has been captured. The Boers are likely to regard it as a sign of weakness, and they have a wholesome dread of De Wet's vengeance if they surrender.

The proclamation is approved by the party at home that favors conciliatory terms to the Boers as a step in the right direction.

Queen Victoria, it is said, has approved the proposal to institute a new order of Knighthood to reward officers who have served in South Africa. The order will probably be called the Star of Africa.

A dispatch from Vryberg, dated Dec 20, says the Boers in considerable numbers were then making an unexpected movement westward. They had 150 wagons. The dispatch suggests that they were trekking to Damaraland, although the Boers themselves denied such an intention.

### DEATH OF MAJ. WM. H. MAULDIN.

Hampton, Dec. 26—Major William H. Mauldin, the State senator from Hampton county, died today at 11:25 o'clock, after an illness extending over nearly a month. He died of a complication of typhoid fever and kidney trouble.

Major Mauldin was one of the most energetic business men in the State of South Carolina. He was the sole owner of the Hampton and Branchville railroad and had large interests in the section of the State in which he resided. He was the father of the town of Hampton, having done the work necessary to the securing of the location of the court house at that point when the county of Hampton was formed. He was a gallant Confederate soldier, known among his comrades as the "fighting quartermaster" of the famous Hampton legion. He was a strong man, an earnest man, and a man generally beloved by those who knew him. During his illness many inquiries have poured into his home from people all over this and other States.

William H. Mauldin was 63 years of age. He was born in Williamson, Anderson county, and came of the well known Mauldin family. He was a son of the Rev. B. Frank Mauldin. His mother is still living and now resides in Anderson. He had two brothers, one of whom died a year ago. The other, Mr. B. F. Mauldin, is now the cashier of the Bank of Anderson and the president of the Bank of Due West. He also had two sisters. He was the first cousin of Lieut. Gov. W. L. Mauldin, of Greenville.

The Spartanburg Herald recently called attention to a very pertinent truth, which is that instead of having fear over the reported presence of the case of smallpox in a community, that community just ought to go to work and vaccinate, which is a sure preventative of the plague and not nearly so costly as to keep the telegraph wires hot and to have special officers of the board of health rushed around to do what the people themselves could do.

## Statement by Conger.

Washington, Dec 24.—Secretary Hay has received a cablegram from Minister Conger at Peking, announcing that he had signed the agreement reached by the foreign ministers, but had done so with a written explanatory statement setting forth the exact position of his government.

The text of the statement is not forwarded by Mr. Conger, but it is understood to be based upon the last instruction he received from the department which, while disapproving the inclusion in the agreement of some of the more severe language, accepted it as the best arrangement that could be made at this time. It is believed that the United States also, while sanctioning the provisions of the agreement relative to the maintenance of permanent lines of communication, legations guards, and prohibition of the importation of arms into China, indicates clearly that constitutional reasons prevent the executive from making any pledge to take part in the execution of these plans.

The signature of the agreement by the minister closes what is regarded here as the first, the most important, and the most difficult phase of the negotiations as to China, for it is not doubted that the Chinese envoys will subscribe to this agreement, without amendment.

Its conclusion has been marked by one of the most curious mistakes in the history of international exchanges, for by a cipher error, the majority of the signers found to their amazement that they had contracted to do exactly what they did not intend, and moreover, the error was irretrievable.

### JOINT NOTE PRESENTED.

Peking, Dec 24.—The preliminary joint note was delivered today to the Chinese. Li Hung Chang found that he was unable to attend the meeting of the ministers, and his credentials and those of Prince Ching were presented by the latter to the foreign envoys.

Prince Ching, replying to the Spanish minister, Senor B. J. De Coloman, who presented the note, said he would immediately communicate its contents to the Emperor and assured the ministers that a speedy reply was the desire of the court, as it felt that all China wants peace and prosperity.

### ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

Paris, December 25—A dispatch to the Havas Agency from Peking says:

"The ministers assembled at the residence of Senor B. J. De Coloman (the Spanish minister and the doyen of the diplomatic corps) and received Prince Ching, to whom the Spanish minister handed the joint note of the Powers. Li Hung Chang, who is still ill, asked to be excused. Prince Ching said:

"I have the honor to accept the note concerning the reestablishment of good relations and will transmit it immediately to the Emperor and communicate to you his reply as soon as received."

### Many Christians Burned.

Washington, Dec 26—A cablegram received at the state department from United States Minister Conger dated at Peking on the 24th inst, states that the first formal meeting between the diplomatic representatives and Prince Ching took place on the 24th.

Ching presented the credentials of himself and Li Hung Chang, who was unable to attend owing to illness, to the diplomatic representatives, who handed to him the international note.

Our occupancy from a military point of view has terminated and there is no disposition to renew it. As for the other powers it is expected that the main obstacle they will encounter in withdrawing under this condition will be found in the difficulty in obtaining satisfactory guarantees upon the Chinese promise to pay indemnities.

### CHRISTIANS BURNED.

Peking, Dec 26—The Rev. Mr. Kelly, the Presbyterian missionary, has reported to Minister Conger the burning by Boxers of 19 Catholic Christians, and now says he has received further confirmation of the burning of native Christians. He says the number is 21 and that thousands of armed Chinese have been seen in the San Ho country.

The reports of the various nations celebrated Christmas in their own fashion, each force being interested in the doings of the powers. The Germans today reviewed on the occasion of the presentation of flags to two regiments. The event was made practically international. All the generals and their staffs and detachments of their troops were present, with the result that a great military spectacle was witnessed. No answer has yet been received to the joint note of the powers.

### THE FRENCH HAVE A FIGHT.

Berlin, Dec 26.—Field Marshal Count von Waldersee, in a dispatch from Peking dated Monday, Dec 24, says: "The French troops encountered,

December 22, east of Choochoo, between Peking and Pao Ting Fu, a Chinese force numbering 2,500 men with artillery. The Chinese fled in the direction of Kuan Hsien. They suffered losses and left behind them five standards and four cannon. The Chinese probably consisted of the reunited remnants of a body already dispersed.

### THE AMERICANS LED.

Washington, Dec 26.—Brig Gen. Haywood, commander of the marine corps, has forwarded to the navy department a letter from Capt. Chas. D. Long, serving with the marines in China, stating that the American marines were the first to enter the forbidden city. There has been much controversy as to whether the Russians, British, Germans or Americans were first inside the sacred precincts of the forbidden city, and this letter is regarded as establishing the claim of the Americans to have been the first on the ground.

### HE IS NOT SATISFIED WITH SOME TERMS OF JOINT NOTE.

Peking, Dec 27.—Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching, the Chinese peace commissioners, have heard from Emperor Kwang Su. Prince Ching called on the former for consultation, remaining over an hour. The court objects strenuously to reducing the forts, and also to allowing permanent legation guards, which it seems to think, could be made sufficiently large at any time it was desired to menace the court itself.

After the conference it was decided to hold further communication with the court before seeing the ministers.

The British have increased their garrison at Yang Tsun by a hundred men with horses and three guns.

A flying column of 1,600 cavalry will scour the country between Tientsin and Yang Tsun, in obedience to Field Marshal Count von Waldersee's orders to be on the alert, in view of the French report of an engagement with 2,500 Chinese troops.

Col. Tallock's regiment will return to destroy the towns he recently held. This action is taken, owing to the fact that it has been discovered that a number of Boxers unquestionably made their headquarters. The British authorities say they do not expect serious trouble from the Boxers, mainly because they lack arms.

Fortunately, the Chinese government feared to trust them with arms, lest a rebellion against the dynasty be undertaken. Otherwise the danger might have been serious. British soldiers have been found dead outside the Temple of Heaven with bullets in their brains. The murders are believed to have been committed by Chinese.

A detachment of the Sixth United States cavalry, Ninth infantry and Fifth artillery will leave tomorrow to investigate the reported burning of native Christians by Boxers, as reported by the Rev. Mr. Kelley, the Presbyterian missionary.

The expedition will be commanded by Lieut. Col. Theodore Wint, of the Sixth cavalry.

### Hubbard's Cotton Letter.

New York, Dec 27.—Liverpool advices came decidedly better than anticipated in view of the heavy interior receipts of yesterday. This caused our market to open somewhat better, but without attracting any outside buying, and values slowly eased through arbitrage buying and absorbed the liquidation brought about by the movement. Receipts at the interior towns and ports are heavy in comparison with last season, and unless they fall off it will be difficult to attract outside buying.

The India crop is beginning to move at Bombay. The receipts are 63,000, against 36,000 bales last season. Our stock seems likely to continue to increase, but the trade expect the south to hold its cotton and therefore does not anticipate any immediate weakness despite the movement.

Hubbard Bros & Co

### BIG FIREWORKS EXPLOSION.

Laurens, Dec 23—Fireworks ignited at about 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon in front of J. S. Bennett's store, when the square was alive with half a thousand people and hundreds of vehicles of every pattern and every possible sort of team. Cannon crackers and all manner of smaller fireworks simultaneously exploded; the fire bells rang and the fire department was out in a jiffy. Males, men, women and children became excited and the square had such a commotion as the century has not known in this town. When quiet was restored fortunately the damage was found to be small. Mr. Clinton Shell, a clerk of Mr. Bennett, was severely hurt in the face by a rocket, but, it is hoped, not seriously. A half dozen buggies were smashed. Mr. Bennett's loss is about \$75. It was near being a most serious calamity.

## Smallpox in the State.

### DR EVANS REVIEWS THE SITUATION.

Dr. James Evans has made a preliminary report to Gov. McSweeney in regard to the condition of smallpox in this State, which gives a complete review of the situation and the conditions existing at both the opening and close of the year. The report shows that there is not as much smallpox now prevailing as would be generally supposed.

There is more or less of the disease in the counties of Fairfield, Union, Spartanburg, Barnwell, Beaufort and Orangeburg. For a while during the summer it was confined almost entirely to Union county, which has not been free from it during the year, and which county has been the focus from which the adjoining counties have been infected with one or two exceptions, where it came from North Carolina. There are at present a few cases on certain sea islands, the origin of which has not yet been traced.

The lack of power to enforce general vaccination is one of the greatest drawbacks to the work of the State Board of Health. The disease now prevailing is of a more virulent type than heretofore.

### WHISKEY AND PISTOLS.

Muskogee, I. T., Dec 25—John Tiger, a full blood Indian, a ferryman on the Arkansas River, two miles south of Eufaula, went to Muskogee with his wife this afternoon and, while intoxicated, met L. B. Roper and threatened to kill him. Roper immediately struck Tiger with a board, no words passing between them. Tiger went to his buggy, got a Winchester and came back to kill Roper, but failed to find him.

Enraged, he proceeded to shoot every one he saw, shooting Jesse Beck through the hips and killing him; shooting and killing David Porter, a nephew of Chief Porter, and a mover named Johnson, on his way to Missouri in a covered wagon with his family. Bud Taylor, aged 18, was shot through the shoulder and is not expected to live. Tiger immediately jumped on a horse and tried to escape, but was chased three miles, when he jumped off his horse, went behind a tree and began shooting. Deputy Marshal Johnson, who returned the fire, struck Tiger in the arm. The murderer surrendered and was brought to Eufaula. Tiger's arm will have to be amputated. Great indignation prevails over the free sale of liquors and firearms. J. Smith, who lives two miles south of Chocoma, became involved in a quarrel with T. Thompson over the affair at Eufaula and began shooting. Thompson being mortally wounded.

### A SUBMARINE TELEPHONE.

Key West, Fla., December 25—An interesting experiment has just been made here, which demonstrates conclusively that a proper telephone cable communication can be had with foreign countries. In the presence of several prominent people the officers of the Southern Bell Telephone Company connected the phone wires here and at Havana with the Gulf cable between the two cities. For a few minutes a roaring noise prevented any communication, but finally this subsided and the officials here heard Havana distinctly, the words: "I cannot understand you," being clearly transmitted, Havana however, failed to clearly understand. The first experiment was regarded as highly successful.

### A Night of Terror.

"Awful anxiety was felt for the widow of the brave Gen. Burnham of Machias, Me, when the doctors said she could not live till morning," writes Mrs. S. H. Lincoln, who attended her that fearful night. "All thought she must soon die from pneumonia, but she begged for Dr. King's New Discovery, saying it had more than once saved her life, and had cured her of consumption. After three small doses she slept easily all night, and in further use completely cured her." This marvelous medicine is guaranteed to cure all throat, chest and lung diseases. Only 50c and \$1. Trial bottles free at J. F. W. DeLorme's drug store.

### NO EXTENSION.

Though nearly every one in the State believes that there is to be an extension of the time for the payment of taxes this year, it is not likely that it will be given, Gov. McSweeney yesterday stated that he certainly would not recommend an extension this year. He has the power to extend and this announcement, of course, means that the matter goes to the legislature after the time has expired. Many of the officials believe that the time has come to have a fixed day for the payment of taxes and let it be finally understood.—State, Dec. 27.