

# The Thirteen Towns.

FOSSTON, (Polk Co.) MINNESOTA.

Some limbs of the law seem unable to branch out very far.

Schoolboy says the hardest branch of learning grows on a birch tree.

Be honest in your convictions and let the rest of the world take care of itself.

Discover how to tax a nation justly and you become the founder of God's Kingdom on earth.

The Boers are silent. In this respect they set a fine example to their would-be congressional allies.

The government of Nicaragua has finally settled down to a normal condition. It is hard up and trying to borrow money.

A United States trooper in New Mexico married a fair lady in Kentucky by telegraph. This sounds novel, but is a current fact.

A reference library for congress would be a good thing. It might enable certain gentlemen to take their minds off themselves.

A new Venezuelan minister is headed in this direction. We sincerely trust he will be able to reach us ahead of the news of the next revolution.

According to the Montreal and Toronto newspapers, our prosperity has lapped over into Canada. Is this additional evidence of foreign entanglements?

One state of the Union, having a surplus of a million dollars in its treasury, for which it has no pressing use, proposes to devote it to the improvement of public schools. There may be little "practical politics" in such a course, but there is much regard for the welfare of the people.

The supreme court of the United States has decided the case of the Addyston Pipe Company against the combination of pipe manufacturers called the "Associated Pipe Works." The manufacturers in this combination controlled the supply of gas, water and sewer pipes in a considerable number of states, and apportioned the territory among themselves. When contracts were to be awarded, the company to which the territory affected had been assigned would notify the other companies of its bid, and they would put in higher bids. The contract would go to the lowest bidder, which would divide a part of its profits with the others. The supreme court decided that this practice was a restraint upon interstate commerce, and therefore illegal.

The disfigurement of scenery with hideous advertisements is a great evil in this country, but is by no means peculiar to it. In England it has reached such magnitude that a large society has been formed, with a periodical publication as its organ, to combat it and to resist its further extension. The society is reported already to have done much good, especially by so arousing public sentiment as to make it evident that advertisers guilty of the offence will lose rather than gain patronage thereby. There is shrewd sense in that plan of campaign, commendable for application elsewhere. Advertisements are displayed solely for the sake of gain, and if it be known that those which have a character revolting to good taste will repel patronage and cause loss instead of gain, offensive methods of display will speedily be abandoned. The remedy of this evil, as of many others, lies within reach of the public.

The Department of Agriculture work on poisonous plants continues to be one of the most popular lines of investigation thus far undertaken by the division of botany of the agricultural department. The plan of systematically investigating actual cases of poisoning, begun in 1896, has been continued. The fatalities during the last year, included over 4,000 head of farm animals and at least 21 persons. The whole number of fatalities due to poisonous plants is without doubt considerably greater than is shown by the department figures. Even these, however, compared with the statistics in Blyth's Text Book on Poisons, show that during the past year the death rate of human beings in the United States from poisonous plants is twice as great as the average death rate in England from the same cause. This is unquestionably due to a lack of popular knowledge about poisonous plants. The bulletin on this subject has had a wide circulation, and it is hoped that the subject will be taken up and studied in all its bearings.

English soldiers and English newspapers are now wailing dolefully over the annoyances of red tape in the war department, the tenor of complaint being almost identical with that heard in this country during the recent Spanish war. Red tape is a subject for jokes and jibes during the piping times of peace, but red tape in time of war is responsible for the loss of hundreds of lives, the waste of millions of dollars and the dampening of patriotic ardor in the breasts of thousands of brave soldiers.

# RESUME of the NEWS

## Accidental Happenings.

Fire caused a panic among 300 students in a school at Milan, Mich. Two were seriously burned.

By the derailment of a car on the Rapid railway at Mt. Clemens, Mich., six people were badly injured, two probably fatally.

The Newark City Home, an asylum for children at Verona, N. J., burned, involving a loss of about \$100,000. The 300 inmates were gotten out in safety.

John Bryant, Green Bryant and William Beatty were instantly killed by falling rock in Mine No. 8 of the Ashland Coal and Iron Railway company, at Ashland, Ky.

Dan A. Greene, general sales agent for the General Electric company, and his wife, were drowned in the Mohawk river at Schenectady, N. Y., by the capsizing of their boat.

The barns of the South Chicago Railway company at Hammond, Ind., were destroyed by fire. Thirty-two cars were burned. The loss, fully covered by insurance, is placed at \$130,000.

## Foreign.

Spain has decided to fortify the Canaries and Baleares islands.

Von Buelow, in a speech at a luncheon, makes a strong plea for a stronger German navy.

French royalists say they will not attempt to overthrow the republic until after the exposition.

The London Daily Mail expresses the opinion that the Bank of England money rate will be reduced to 5 per cent.

The Duke of Veragua has been commissioned by the queen regent of Spain to present the golden fleece to the German crown prince.

It is stated in Newfoundland circles that France will settle the Newfoundland treaty shore question upon the basis of adequate compensation.

Russia has material ready to build a railway to Herat when necessary. There are fresh rumors of the czar's designs on Afghanistan and Persia.

M. Ignacio Decosta Duarte, charge d'affaires of Portugal, states positively that his government has no intention of disposing of Delagoa Bay to Great Britain.

The foreign officials in Paris express themselves as sanguine that a satisfactory settlement of the trouble between France and Santo Domingo will be reached.

The Prussian budget includes 7,300,000 marks for a site for the new royal library of the academy of sciences and arts, at Berlin, and for the construction of the building.

The Hamburg-American line steamer Deutschland was successfully launched at the Vulkan dock yard at Stettin, in the presence of Emperor William and many notable people. The minister of foreign affairs, Count Von Buelow, christened the vessel.

The epidemic of influenza is spreading throughout Great Britain. The newspapers contain long lists of notable sufferers from the disease, and the death lists are abnormally long. The royal household at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, has not escaped. Many of its members have been removed to a sanitarium.

## Criminal Record.

John Fritz, wife murderer, hanged himself in jail at Celina, Ohio.

Rev. A. C. McGiffert is to be tried for heresy by the New York presbytery.

A mob at Cleveland attempted to lynch a motorman who ran down a farmer.

Three of the best known residents of a Mississippi county were killed recently in a duel.

Gen. A. W. Greely was assaulted by a drunken man in Washington and is in a serious condition.

Miss Rachel Ferguson was sandbagged to death and robbed by an unknown assailant at Toronto, Can.

A Battle Creek, Mich., coroner's jury has decided that Sherman Church, whose body was found under a mill wheel with the hands tied behind it, committed suicide.

Mrs. Maude Johnson, colored, was shot dead at Chicago by J. H. Toner, white, with whom she had eloped from Terre Haute. Toner afterwards shot himself, inflicting a probably fatal wound.

When Tax Collector-elect Scott attempted to assume his office at San Francisco, his right thereto was contested by Collector Sheehan, and a fight ensued in which one man was shot and several badly bruised.

## People Talked About.

Rev. Aloysius Schyns, head of the Order of Alexian Brothers in the United States, died at Chicago of heart disease.

Julia Marlowe Tabor has been granted a divorce.

Secretary Root says he will not be a candidate for vice president.

J. W. Smith was inaugurated as governor of Maryland last week.

Alfred E. Burr, editor of the Hartford, Conn., Times, is dead.

Admiral Dewey has accepted the invitation to visit St. Louis in May.

President San Clement of Colombia is dead. The political outlook there is greatly complicated.

Dr. Edward McGlynn, the celebrated Catholic priest of New York, died last week of Bright's disease.

Dr. Franklin W. Plisk, president of the Chicago Theological seminary, will retire from active work next May.

Philip C. Swab, one of the largest coal operators at Middlesboro, Ky., died suddenly of heart disease.

Gov. Tanner of Illinois confirmed the report that he is a candidate for United States senator against Senator Cullum.

Nathan S. Harwood, for many years a leading figure in business and political circles, died suddenly at Lincoln, Neb. He was president of the Bankers' Life Insurance Company of Lincoln.

## From Washington.

Senator Pettigrew has offered a resolution authorizing the United States government to offer mediation between Great Britain and South Africa.

Congressman Fitzgerald of Massachusetts has introduced a bill for a more equitable distribution of chaplaincies in the army and navy.

The commissioner of internal revenue has held that "a bequest of a sum of money to a priest for the purpose of paying for masses is liable to legacy tax."

The demand for small notes continues beyond all precedent, and has resulted in reducing the supply on hand to a point where an increase is absolutely necessary.

Senator Allen has introduced a bill in the senate granting a pension of \$10 a month to every soldier or sailor who served in the Civil War for three months or more.

Senator Wellington has introduced a bill to establish the University of the United States. The bill is substantially the same form as has been introduced in previous congresses.

Gen. Otis has informed the war department that First Lieut. Daniel T. Bowman, Thirty-seventh Volunteer Infantry, while temporarily deranged, committed suicide by shooting himself.

Representative Levy of New York has introduced in the house a bill to provide for the payment of interest on all internal revenue receipts now on deposit, or hereafter deposited in national banks of the United States.

The Siamese government has given another evidence of its friendliness to the United States by offering to present to this country the temple grounds on which the United States legation is located at Bangkok, worth \$57,000.

The senate has rejected the nomination of Richard S. Berdin as census supervisor for the second census district of Nebraska, embracing the city of Omaha. The adverse action was taken because of the opposition of Senator Thurston.

The state department has received a report from United States Consular Agent Mitchell at San Pedro, Honduras, that the killing of the two Virginians, Imboden and Golde, was the result of a private quarrel, and does not implicate the government of Honduras.

The secretary of war has sent to congress a request for an urgency deficiency appropriation of \$750,000 to supplement the \$1,500,000 heretofore appropriated for the repatriation of the Spanish prisoners and their families held by the insurgents in the Philippines.

Commissioner Wilson, of the internal revenue bureau, has decided that where an officer of a bank holds a membership in a stock exchange for his bank and the business done by him on the exchange is the bank's business, neither he nor his bank is required to pay special tax thereon as a broker.

The postmaster general will submit for the approval of the president an amendment to the civil service rules, permitting the department to reclassify persons who have been temporarily separated from the service because of the discontinuance of a post-office, or of free delivery, which has been re-established. The president has informally signified his approval of the change.

## Otherwise.

Gen. T. M. Anderson will be retired on the 21st inst.

Dewey was recently given a loving cup made of 70,000 dimes.

Deposits in the banks of New York city increased \$40,000,000 last year.

An order for 500 street cars for France has been placed in Pittsburg.

The railroads have agreed not to accept trucks weighing over 200 pounds.

Gen. Shafter will escort Lawson's body from San Francisco to Washington.

Agoncillo boasts that Aguinaldo has 50,000 armed men and nearly 100 cannon.

Ex-Senator Blackburn has been chosen senator by the Kentucky legislature.

An effort is being made to stop the manufacture of buttons by Iowa convict labor.

The cruiser Albany, built in England, on her trial trip developed a speed of 20.87 knots.

All the bequests of the late Cornelius Vanderbilt have been paid. The estate will not exceed \$75,000,000.

The lake traffic for 1899 showed an increase over the preceding year, chiefly in ore and lumber.

The National Business league has endorsed the bill to create a new government department of commerce.

The United States court has decided that oleomargarine colored as butter cannot be sold in Missouri.

Oregon land cases have been decided adversely to the Northern Pacific by the United States supreme court.

Torpedo boat builders have been granted an extension of time on the boats now under construction.

The wages of employees of the American Steel and Wire company, at Joliet, Ill., have been increased 7-1/2 per cent.

H. A. Longton & Co. of Frankfort, Ind., manufacturers of gun stocks, are in receipt of a rush order from the Transvaal for 125,000 gun stocks.

The State Building and Loan Association of Indianapolis, Ind., and Association No. 3, both managed by the same officers, went into voluntary liquidation.

The executive committee of the National Photographers' association has decided to hold its next national convention at Milwaukee during the week of July 10.

Miss Etta Thomas, niece of Gen. Joe Wheeler, has begun suit at Chicago against William H. Fahmy, asking \$100,000 damages for alleged breach of promise to marry.

# BOERS SURPRISED

BRITISH OCCUPY THE HILLS ABOVE POTGIEGER'S DRIFT.

Buller Catches the Boers Napping, Takes a Commanding Position and Effectively Shelled the Boer Trenches - Warren Crosses the Tugela in the Face of a Hot and Heavy Fire - Restores Confidence in Buller - Methuen Makes a Demonstration in Cape Colony.

London, Jan. 19. - The Times publishes the following dispatch from Spearman's Farm, dated Jan. 17, 9:20 p. m.:

"The force marched westward on Jan. 10. Lord Dundonald, by a dashing movement, occupied the hills above Potgieger's drift, fifteen miles west of Colenso, taking the Boers completely by surprise. The same evening the infantry followed. Gen. Littleton's brigade crossed the river Tugela and today shelled the Boer trenches behind with Howitzers. Gen. Warren's forces are now crossing the Tricharte drift, five miles above. He is not opposed, although the Boers are holding a position five miles from the river."

The other morning papers are out with extra editions confirming the dispatch from Spearman's Farm to the Times. The Daily Telegraph's correspondent, under yesterday's date, says:

"I am permitted to wire from Spearman's Farm that Gen. Lytton yesterday afternoon ferried and forded Potgieger's drift and seized with little delay a line of low ridges a mile from there. During the night a Howitzer battery was carried across. Today from Mount Alice, near Swartkop, naval guns and Howitzers effectively shelled the Boer position, which is strong. Gen. Warren also today crossed the Tugela six miles further to the west, near Wagon drift, with all arms, in the face of a hot and heavy fire from Boer cannon and rifles. He found the most satisfactory lodgment two miles further on toward Sproen kop."

## CONFIDENCE IN BULLER.

It is Restored by the News of His Latest Movements.

London, Jan. 19. - Gen. Buller completely surprised the Boers and occupied the hills beyond Potgieger's drift, fifteen miles west of Colenso, on Wednesday, Jan. 10. This intelligence is contained in an exclusive dispatch to the Times dated yesterday. He followed up the movement by shelling the Boer trenches. This news completely disposes of the statement that Sir Charles Warren went in the direction of Wenenen, and it tends to restore confidence in Gen. Buller's tactics. The supposition that he had divided his force is also disposed of. These reports had given cause for anxiety. It is now seen each view was erroneous, as Gen. Buller's forces are concentrating.

In Cape Colony Gen. Methuen has made a demonstration in force, shelling the Boer works. Gen. Gatacre is skirmishing around Molteno and Gen. Buller has been throwing a few shells at the Boers at Rensburg. Col. Plummer is moving to the relief of Mafeking from Beccanland. He is in command of less than 2,000 men. Mafeking is in a bad way, the siege is being pressed with determination and the Kafirs are deserting because of diminished rations and the necessity of eating horse meat.

The Standard's vivid account of the assault upon Ladysmith shows that the garrison was surprised and that several times the situation was critical. Out of a detachment of thirty Gordon Highlanders who surrendered, every man was wounded, says the correspondent. Curiously enough this is the first mention of the capture of Highlanders. The Boer repulse at Ladysmith was the heaviest counterstroke of the war. The government is relaxing its efforts to send out reinforcements. It is quite undecided as to when the Eighth division will be shipped.

British Residents Impressed by Boers.

London, Jan. 19. - The correspondent of the Times at Lourenzo Marquez, telegraphing yesterday, says: "An old British resident of the Boer republic who has just been expelled, informs me that 10 per cent of the Boer commandos are British or British born, who have been compelled to go to the front. The Boers are so disappointed and disheartened that he predicts that a single big reverse would be followed by a wholesale dispersal of the Free Staters, who are disgusted with the Transvaalers. They have no money and no foodstuffs except unground wheat and mealies in the Free States and the payment of official salaries has been suspended. On account of defective transportation the men at the front often go whole days without food. Rifle ammunition is running short, and what was condemned by Gen. Joubert at the beginning of the war as dangerous, is now being used."

## BLACKBURN IS SENATOR.

Final Vote by Kentucky Legislature in Joint Session.

Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 19. - The legislature met in joint session at noon yesterday and listened to the final vote on its senator. J. C. S. Blackburn, the journal showed, had received 77 votes to 53 for Bradley and Speaker Trimble declared Blackburn duly elected to succeed William Lindsay. W. J. Bryan was present and applauded when Blackburn was declared elected. Senator-elect Blackburn made a speech of acceptance.

## THE HAGUE TREATY.

Senate Committee Will Present a Favorable Report.

Washington, Jan. 19. - The senate committee on foreign relations agreed to report favorably the convention known as the Hague treaty, negotiated last year. The treaty was not amended. The committee also acted favorably upon the extradition treaties with Peru and Argentina, also the treaty to continue the Mexican boundary commission. The reciprocity treaties were not considered.

# AGAINST ROBERTS.

Special Committee Reaches a Final Conclusion.

Washington, Jan. 19. - The special committee of the house of representatives to investigate the case of Brigham H. Roberts of Utah, yesterday reached a final conclusion. On the polygamous status of Mr. Roberts the committee was unanimous, and agreed upon a formal statement of facts. On the question of procedure to be adopted the committee was divided. The majority, consisting of all the members except Littlefield of Maine and De Armond of Missouri, favored exclusion at the outset. Messrs Littlefield and De Armond will make a minority report favorable to seating Roberts on his prima facie rights and then expelling him. The statement of facts found by the committee is as follows:

"We find that B. H. Roberts was elected as a representative to the Fifty-sixth congress from the State of Utah, and was at the date of his election above the age of twenty-five years; that he had been for more than seven years a naturalized citizen of the United States, and was an inhabitant of the State of Utah. We further find that about 1878 he married Louisa Smith, his first and lawful wife, with whom he has ever since lived as such, and who, since their marriage, has borne him six children. About 1885 he married his plural wife, Cella Dibble, with whom he has ever since lived as such, and who, since such marriage, has borne him six children, two of which, the last, were twins, born Aug. 11, 1897. That some years after his said marriage to Cella Dibble he contracted another plural marriage with Margaret C. Shipp, with whom he has ever since lived in the habit and repute of marriage. Your committee is unable to fix the exact date of this marriage. It does not appear that he held her out as his wife before Jan. 1, 1897, or that before that date she held him out as her husband, or that before that date they were reputed to be husband and wife.

"That these facts were generally known in Utah, publicly charged against him during his campaign for election and were not denied by him. That the testimony bearing on these facts was taken in the presence of Mr. Roberts and that he fully cross-examined the witnesses, but declined to place himself on the witness stand."

Chairman Taylor was authorized to prepare the majority report. It will be ready in a few days and the prospects are that the subject will be brought before the house early next week. Mr. De Armond will submit the views of the minority.

## THE MARKETS.

Latest Quotations From Grain and Live Stock Centers.

St. Paul, Jan. 19. - Wheat - No. 1 Northern, 62 1/2-63 3/4; No. 2 Northern, 59 1/2-60 1/2. Corn - No. 3 yellow, 29 1/2-29 3/4; No. 3, 29 1/4-29 1/2. Oats - No. 3 white, 23 1/2-23 3/4; No. 3, 22 3/4-23 1/4. Barley and Rye - Feed barley, 31 1/2-32 1/2; malting grade, 33 1/2-35; No. 2 rye, 47 1/2-47 3/4; No. 3 rye, 46 1/2-47 1/2.

Duluth, Jan. 19. - Wheat - No. 1 hard 64 3/8; No. 1 Northern, 62 7/8; No. 2 Northern, 60 3/8; No. 3 spring, 56 7/8; to arrive, No. 1 hard, 64 1/2; No. 1 Northern, 63c; May, No. 1 Northern, 65 3/8; July, No. 1 Northern, 66 1/2; No. 2, 23 1/2-24; rye, 49 1/4; barley, 34 1/2; flax, to arrive, \$1.45; cash, \$1.44; May, \$1.48; corn, 30 3/8.

Minneapolis, Jan. 19. - Wheat - No. 1 Northern, 62 1/2-63 3/4; No. 2 Northern, 60 1/2-61 1/2; No. 3, 58 1/2-59 1/2. Corn - No. 3 yellow, 29 1/2-29 3/4; No. 3, 28 3/4-29; No. 4, 28 1/2-29. Oats - No. 2 white, 23 1/4-23 1/2; No. 3, 23 1/2-23 3/4. Barley, 32 1/2-33c. Rye - No. 2, 47 1/2-48c.

Milwaukee, Jan. 19. - Flour is steady. Wheat steady; No. 1 Northern, 64 1/2; No. 2 Northern, 62 1/2-63 1/2. Rye dull; No. 1, 55 1/2-56 1/2. Barley steady; No. 2, 45 1/2-46c; sample, 35 1/2-36 1/2. Oats steady; No. 2 white, 25 1/4.

Chicago, Jan. 19. - Wheat - No. 2 red, 60c; No. 3, 59 1/2-60c; No. 2 hard winter, 62 1/2; No. 3, 59 1/2-60 1/2; No. 1 Northern spring, 65 1/2-66c; No. 2 do, 64 1/2-65c; No. 3 spring, 63 1/2-64c. Corn - No. 2, 31 1/2-32; No. 3, 31 1/4-32. Oats - No. 2, 23c; No. 3, 22 3/4-23c.

Chicago, Jan. 19. - Cattle - Beeves \$4.10-4.60; cows and heifers, \$3.25-4.25; stockers and feeders, \$3.25-4.25. Mixed and butchers, \$4.50-4.75; good to choice heavy, \$4.65-4.75; rough heavy, \$4.45-4.60; light, \$4.40-4.65; bulk of sales, \$4.55-4.70. Sheep, \$4.25-4.40; lambs, \$4.50-6.20.

Sioux City, Iowa, Jan. 19. - Cattle - Beeves, \$4.50-6.50; cows and bulls, mixed, \$2.25-6.4; stockers and feeders, \$3.50-4.40; calves and yearlings, \$3.75-4.75. Hogs, \$4.50-4.55; bulk, \$4.52 1/2-4.55.

South St. Paul, Jan. 19. - Hogs - \$4.30-4.50. Cattle - Steers, \$4.25; cows, \$2.63-3.75; bulls, \$2.40-3.25; heifers, \$3.63-3.50; stockers, \$3.64-3.25; lambs, \$5.50.

## FRANCE IS PLEASED.

Which is Quite Natural, Having Forced Indemnity From Santo Domingo.

Paris, Jan. 19. - The French government expresses itself pleased with the settlement of the Santo Domingo trouble, which, according to a telegram from Admiral Richard, was a complete victory for France. Santo Domingo is undertaking to pay the indemnity demanded, a responsible minister to make a public declaration that no affront was ever intended for France, and that the foreign minister to write to the French government expressing the regrets of his government at the anti-French demonstrations. The officials of the foreign office here deny that there is any question of the recall of the French minister at Santo Domingo.

## Convicted of Perjury.

Kankakee, Ill., Jan. 19. - Maurice Goldson, a Chicago detective, was found guilty of perjury in the county court yesterday and sentenced to the penitentiary. It was shown that he had given false testimony in a murder trial.

Andrew Johnson's Daughter Dying.

Greensville, Tenn., Jan. 19. - Mrs. M. J. Patterson, the only child of Andrew Johnson, is critically ill at her home here and is not expected to live. She is over eighty years old.

# BULLER IS AT IT

HEAVY ARTILLERY FIRING IS REPORTED.

Believed Boers Are Contesting Buller's Passage of the Tugela - Firing Is Described as the Heaviest Yet Heard in Natal - Even Rumors Are No Longer Telegraphed From Natal - Conciliation Committee Is the Latest Peace Organization - More Reports of the Free Staters' Disgust for the War.

London, Jan. 18. - A special to the Daily Mail from Pietermaritzburg, dated Tuesday, says: "There was very heavy firing to-day. It is believed the Boers are contesting Gen. Buller's passage of the Tugela. Both sides were evidently busy, as the firing is described as the heaviest yet heard in Natal."

The Times publishes the following from Pietermaritzburg, dated Tuesday: "Very heavy artillery firing was heard yesterday in the direction of Springfield."

The Exchange Telegraph company has received the following dispatch, dated Jan. 16, from Pietermaritzburg: "There is no news from the front, but heavy firing was heard to-day in the direction of Frere. It is probable that Gen. Buller is engaging the enemy. A rumor is current here that a portion of the British force is near Ladysmith."

## DEEP SILENCE REIGNS.

Even Rumors Are No Longer Telegraphed From Natal.

London, Jan. 18. - Even rumors are no longer telegraphed from Natal. The impression gathered by the military experts from this is that no determinate blow has been delivered by either side, as in such an event there would be no necessity for silence. The South African conciliation committee, quietly formed to represent the peace minority, announces itself to the country and asks for the support of the public. Among the members are Lord and Lady Coleridge, Herbert Spencer, Sir Robert Threshie Reid, George John Slav-Lefevre, Stephen Gladstone, Countess of Carlisle, Robert Harrison and other notable persons. Leonard Courtney, Unionist member of parliament for the Bodmin division of Cornwall, is president of the committee. This movement should be distinguished from the stop-the-war group of extremists, of which William T. Stead is the most active member. Its position, as summarized, is to wait until some proper opportunity arrives for some peaceful settlement. Meanwhile it will gather and distribute correct information and sound views. The manifest affirms that "as the war was begun amid misunderstandings on both sides a pacific settlement is possible."

There is no indication that such an arrangement would be tolerated by any considerable portion of the public. National emotion is now in a state of disquietude over the reverses to British arms; dissatisfaction with the conduct of military business is intense, and there is an almost universal determination to see the thing through. Exchange of Shells at Modder River.

Modder River, Jan. 18. - There was a brisk exchange of shells yesterday morning, the Boers returning our fire for the first time in several days. The British entrenchments are being continually strengthened and extended. Stories continue to reach camp that the Free Staters desire to terminate the war.

Free Staters Tired of War.

London, Jan. 18. - The Durban correspondent of the Standard deals with the numerous reports that the Free Staters have tired of the war and will abandon the struggle as soon as the British cross the border. He mentions an extraordinary story with reference to the journey of President Kruger's son-in-law, Eloff, to Delagoa Bay in a German warship. According to this Eloff had been making arrangements for President Kruger's escape through Damaraland in the event of the capture of Pretoria.

Landed in British Vessels.

London, Jan. 18. - The Pietermaritzburg correspondent of the Times, telegraphing Tuesday, 16, says: The Delagoa Bay correspondent of the Natal Times asserts that six big cruise gunners and fifty tons of shells were landed from the French steamer Giroude about the middle of last month under the noses of two British warships, and were dispatched to Pretoria and caused much rejoicing at the ease with which contraband of war can run the blockade.

## NEEDS OF PUERTO RICO.