

Methuen was isolated, but fought for three hours. Having suffered a severe wound himself, and his men having exhausted their ammunition, he finally surrendered. He asserts that most of the Boers wore British khaki uniforms, and that many also wore British badges, so that they were undistinguishable from British troops even at close quarters.

Field Marshal Wolseley having suddenly gone to South Africa after the Methuen disaster, it was rumored in London on the 14th that he had gone under special orders from the king, which was regarded as a rebuff to the prime minister; but the rumors have been denied, and the question remains whether he has gone to South Africa in an important but mysterious official capacity or only as a private traveler.

The subject of the war came up in the British House of Lords on the 17th when a criticism of martial law in Cape Colony drew out from Lord Salisbury the explanation that armed resistance in Cape Colony is such as to make martial law necessary. In the House of Commons a motion by the Liberal leader, Campbell-Bannerman, for an investigation of British army scandals, made on the same day, was defeated on the 18th, the war secretary having declared that while the ministry did not fear an investigation, the proposed inquiry would be so vast and far-reaching that British operations in all parts of the world would be paralyzed.

In the United States the British reconcentrado camps have been subjected to further discussion in Congress (see p. 775) in connection with the refusal of the administration to apply for British permits to enable the Rev. Hiram W. Thomas and his wife to go into the camps for the purpose of offering the relief provided for by the Gov. Yates fund. The question of recognizing the Boer republics is also agitating Congress, a paper signed by 90 members calling a Democratic caucus for the 19th to take party action on the subject, having been presented to the caucus chairman, such a caucus was held on that date. It adopted resolutions (1) calling for an expression by Congress of sympathy with the Boers; (2) calling for an amicable appeal by Congress to the British government to accept overtures of peace; (3) demanding prompt reports by the congress-

sional committees on resolutions bearing on the subject. It is believed that Mr. Bryan, who was in Washington last week, approved active measures in this direction by his party friends. On his return from Washington, while stopping at Chicago to attend the funeral of the late Gov. Altgeld, Mr. Bryan spoke at a meeting called in honor of the visiting Boer envoys. He was earnest in his advocacy of the Boer cause, deplored the refusal of our officials to interfere with the British breach of neutrality at New Orleans, and expressed his hope that Congress would invite Paul Kruger to visit this country.

Ex-Gov. John P. Altgeld, whose sudden death at the close of a pro-Boer speech at Joliet, Ill., was announced at page 775, was buried in Graceland cemetery, Chicago, on the 16th. Private funeral services had been conducted at his home on the 14th, addresses being made by Jane Addams, Clarence S. Darrow, and the Rev. Frank Crane of the People's church. On the 15th the body was borne to the public library building, in the large marble-lined corridor of which it lay in state for 24 hours, imbedded in flowers. From 40,000 to 50,000 people passed by the open coffin, and on Sunday morning it was carried to the grave. William Jennings Bryan spoke briefly at the library building before the long civic procession moved, and at the open grave eulogies were delivered by Mr. Bryan, Charles A. Towne and Joseph W. Errant. There was no military display. Gov. Yates, who, with his staff, escorted the body both from the house and to the cemetery, had offered to call out the militia in full uniform in honor of the dead ex-governor, but at the urgent request of Altgeld's closer friends refrained from doing so. He himself attended simply as the civil chief magistrate of the State. Along the whole line of march thousands who had come to honor the occasion lined the streets on either side; while a Negro pall bearer occupied one of the six chief places of honor at the funeral of this great Democrat, and organizations of working women marched in the funeral column. For a distance of two miles or more the procession moved on foot, Mr. Bryan walking as an honorary pall bearer close behind the hearse, escorted by Judge E. F. Dunne, while Gov. Yates and his official attendants walked immediately

after the line of honorary pall bearers. A memorial meeting is to be held at the Chicago Auditorium on the 20th of April.

The final act of the city council of Cleveland on the 3-cent fare measure, described last week, took place as predicted on the 17th. By a vote of 20 to 2, the franchise was granted, the new company having obtained the necessary number of frontage consents for about 20 miles of double track. The work of construction, the mayor declares, is to begin immediately.

Further proceedings for the repeal in Colorado of the Bucklin taxation amendment (p. 776) were taken in the lower house of the legislature, notwithstanding the expectation noted last week that the matter had in effect been indefinitely postponed. All revenue legislation pending in the House was suddenly disposed of on the 7th, whereupon this repeal measure came up. The first battle was over the majority and minority reports of the committee on constitutional amendments, the former recommending the repeal, with the proviso that upon passing second reading the repeal be referred to the Supreme Court for its judicial opinion. The motion to adopt this report was carried by a vote of 33 to 26. Thus encouraged the repealers tried to force the bill through, but they were defeated on the 14th on a motion to strike out the enacting clause. The circumstances were exciting. While the vote was proceeding monotonously, Representative Whitelaw's name was called. He had always been opposed to the Bucklin amendment, and as he rose to explain his vote, the assembly became oppressively silent. His explanation raised it to a high pitch of excitement. Said he:

Mr. Speaker: I am against this Bucklin bill, but I am also a representative of my people. From the hearthstones of nearly every hut on the mountain sides of my district, from the dwellers of every hamlet in my county, and from every walk of life among my constituency, has come an appeal to me to submit this question to them. I shall therefore hearken to their call and dutifully obey the mandates of those who have honored me with their suffrages. Mr. Speaker, I vote aye to kill the repeal bill.

But still the vote stood 31 to 29 in favor of the repeal. Then Representative Davidson changed his vote, making a tie, and both sides were