

FIGHTING NEAR MAFEKING

Boers Are Advancing in Force to Meet the Relief Column Under Colonel Plumer.

BOERS REPORT A BRITISH DEFEAT.

The Story Is Not Believed in London—Many Free Staters Are Anxious to Surrender—Activity in Natal—Burgbers Burn a Town.

(Associated Press.) London, March 22.—The report from Kroonstadt, Orange Free State, that the Boers under the command of Olivier defeated the British is not believed here. A dispatch to the Daily News from Springfontein, dated Tuesday, March 20th, says General Gatacre was "all well" and adds that he and Gen. Brabant had not lost a dozen men in a fortnight. The last advice also placed Gen. Gatacre about 30 miles north of Bethulle, where the Boer report says the defeat was inflicted. This, with the fact that no mention of the affair was made by Lord Roberts in his dispatch of March 21st, confirms the belief that the Kroonstadt reports are erroneous. Skirmishing Near Lobatsi. The reports of skirmishing near Lobatsi, while apparently not inflicting any serious loss to Col. Plumer's column, cause grave anxiety in regard to his ability to reach Mafeking. Further news from that quarter is anxiously awaited, for in the six days that have elapsed since the last messages were sent off, a serious engagement may have occurred, though not of Col. Plumer's seeking. The Boers seem determined not to give up their prey at Mafeking without a fierce struggle.

"Mafeking Day." In reply to the Mayor of Capetown's request to make "Mafeking relief day" a public holiday, Premier Schreiner wrote: "May the holiday come soon, and may a spirit of general good will and kindly consideration prevail later."

Will Continue the War. The Times, in its second edition, publishes a dispatch from Lorenzo Marquez which quotes President Steyn as saying at Kroonstadt that the Boers would continue the struggle for six months longer. Pomeroy Destroyed. While the Boers and British in the Orange Free State are taking advantage of the period of inactivity, a special dispatch from Durban says the town of Pomeroy, thirty miles east of Ladysmith has been burned by the Boers. A British detachment arriving at Pomeroy as the Boers evacuated the place, shelled the burghers, but they succeeded in taking up a strong position in the hills with a force estimated to number five thousand.

ANXIOUS TO SURRENDER.

London, March 22.—Lord Roberts telegraphed from Bloemfontein, under the date of March 21st, as follows: "So many burghers have expressed a desire to surrender under the terms of the last proclamation that I have sent small columns in various directions to register their names and take over their arms. A cavalry brigade has gone to the eastward to Thabaneh, and a detachment from Springfontein has occupied Smithfield, where some Transvaalers and wagon with arms and ammunition were captured. The Scots Guards are at Edenburg and Reddersburg. General Clements's brigade is marching here by way of Philippolis and Fauresmith."

BOERS CLAIM A VICTORY.

Kroonstadt, O. F. S., Tuesday, March 20, via Pretoria, March 22.—The Boers, commanded by Gen. Olivier, have engaged the British troops under General Gatacre in the vicinity of Bethulle, repulsing the British with heavy loss and capturing many of them. Burgbers are arriving here in great numbers. General Dewet arrived to-day. Desultory fighting with Col. Plumer's column has occurred near Gaberones. Not Believed. London, March 22.—The report of Gen. Gatacre's defeat by the Boers is not believed here. The last advice placed Gatacre about 20 miles north of Bethulle, where the Boers report says he was defeated.

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Lobatsi, Friday, March 16.—The Boers, under Commandant Snyman, are advancing in force from Mafeking towards Lobatsi. Colonel Bodle made a reconnaissance on March 13th and found Pitzani and Potlango occupied by the Boers. He returned to Goode siding and made a demonstration on March 14th. He found the Boers in strength at a sharp curve on the railway. They had mounted a gun on the line and were lying in wait for the construction train. Brisk firing occurred a few miles south of Lobatsi on the morning of the 15th. The Boers' Maxim was freely used. Col. Bodle came in touch with the Boers just in time to prevent the camp being

widely ravaged from point to point in a districts of the Free State, dispersing or accepting the surrender of any remaining Boers, thus ensuring the safety of Lord Roberts's communications before starting towards Pretoria. Winster Churchill in a dispatch from Pietermaritzburg says: "I think it may be counted a certainty that the Transvaal would immediately comply if Great Britain were to demand equally fair treatment to all prisoners, by a threat of reprisals on Transvaal prisoners."

MAFEKING SIEGE.

Boers Spoil a Dance and in Return Give an Exhibition of Fireworks. The correspondent of the London Daily Mail writing from Mafeking, probably on February 15th, via Gaberones, February 20th, says: "After obtaining possession of the brickfields on our extreme southeast we followed up the advantage by pushing our trenches to within 150 yards of the enemy. Our rifles were thus enabled to considerably harass the Boers. Driven from the brickfields, the enemy have occupied the trenches whence they were ejected by Fitzclarence with the bayonet on the night of October 27. Fowler and Fitzclarence have been cleared. He is better now and his sword still swings at his side. The position occupied by the Boers enables their musketry to rake by night and day the streets running east and west. Captain Raymond Gildwood, formerly of the militia and lately A.D.C. and principal officers of customs, was riding a bicycle home to luncheon on Monday. Just outside his house he was struck by Manser bullets, which penetrated his stomach and kidneys. He died on Tuesday. Corporal Armstrong, B.S.A. Police and formerly of the 20th Hussars, has died of black fever. He was a splendid soldier, a good sportsman, and exceedingly popular. Last Sunday morning we had a cricket match and in the afternoon a concert. In the evening the bachelor officers gave a dance. As on Sunday generally, the no-firing contract was continued as usual, but just as it was time for the dancing to begin the Boer guns broke out, and all the Protectorate, Cape and B.S.A. Police and Bechuanaland Rifles shells rained down and spent the night standing in arms in the trenches, which were muddy with recent rains, instead of entwining arms in the ballroom. It was soldiers' luck, and, like soldiers, they made not a murmur. All were laughing and chaffing as they scurried into the trenches and the "pit-pit-pit" of the bullets, which came right up to the entrance of the hall where the dance was held. The Boer siege gun, the 9-pound Krupp, the 5-pound high velocity, the big Maxim, and musketry commenced about 9 o'clock and continued all night. On the 21st the Boers did not waste ammunition, while our Maxim drew the enemy's fire more noisily, enabling our boys to construct earthworks. Practically the enemy's musketry and artillery have continued ever since their heavy fire. They are using incendiary shells, but no harm has been done. The colors ordered the men to be ready everywhere to extinguish fire. It was a pretty sight to watch the shells coming into the market square bursting into yellow, blue and red flames. It reminded one of the Crystal Palace on Thursday nights. One fell into the sea. It is believed that the return ticket for Victoria was safe. On Wednesday the Boers sent a letter objecting to our continuing defence works on Sunday. Note their infernal insolence—every one of their own works near us was constructed on Sundays. The reason was not that, but an excuse to send a flag of truce. We never fire a shot while their flag is coming or returning. Thus secure, they fixed a derrick over their siege gun and placed the gun on wagons ready to remove it to the other side of the town. Now it is placed almost due west four miles off, in a line with the centre of the town. The probable object of their placing their gun there is to try and damage our factories, of which they hear the engines night and day. Perhaps they wonder what we do. There was great jubilation this morning when a sharpshooter to the south-east bagged another brace and a half. Hurrah! Three more wickets down. Feb. 20.—The situation is generally unchanged. We have received congratulations from the town council of Kimberley.

DESTITUTE PORTO RICANS

Thousands of Women Are Without Clothing of Any Kind. Money Voted by Congress Will Be Spent in Building Roads. (Associated Press.) New York, March 22.—Describing the present condition of affairs in Porto Rico, the correspondent of the Journal and Advertiser at San Juan says: "The people are too weak to resist bayonet rule, but their love for the United States is changing to apathy or fierce hatred. In San Juan one can hear on nearly every street half-naked children singing the American national hymn. The scene is pathetic. It is almost incredible, but from the district of Caraco comes a message that more than 1,000 women in that neighborhood can't leave their hats because they have no clothes. The same reports come from other districts. There are probably 30,000 naked women in the mountain districts. Thousands of children can't attend school, because the teachers refuse to receive them stark naked as they present themselves. General Davis is quoted in an interview as saying: "We shall spend most of the money furnished by the Congress in building roads. We will continue to feed the incapable and destitute. If a man is able-bodied, but will not work, he must starve. If he cannot work he will be fed. As free trade and constitutional rights have become political questions, I cannot enter into the controversy. I have given the government the true facts and have pointed out what I believe to be the only sound policy for the government. That ends my duty. I cannot take part in questions of high statesmanship. The people of Puerto Rico are civilized and more capable than the people of New Mexico, who were given territorial government fifty years ago."

DISCRIMINATION.

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BAD BOYS.

(Special to the Times.) Nanaimo, March 22.—Urbey boys last night attempted to burn the Presbyterian mission on Needham street by saturating a pile of wood under the building with kerosene and setting it on fire. A lady discovered and extinguished the flames. The boys had their faces blacked up and made their escape.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(Associated Press.) London, March 22.—At the general court of the Bank of England to-day the governor, Mr. Samuel Stuart Gladstone, announced that the profits of the six months ending Feb. 28th were £730,148, and a dividend of 5 per cent. was declared.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children. The water-vaporably on the dry and Mill

CARNEGIE'S NEW COMPANY.

"Will Be the Most Powerful in the World"—Capitalization Nearly \$200,000,000. (Associated Press.) New York, March 22.—The World, in a Pittsburgh dispatch, makes the positive statement that the Carnegie-Frick controversy has been settled and a permanent peace established. The dispatch adds: "The new Carnegie Steel Company, in which will be included all the old companies directly and indirectly part of the Carnegie interests, will be the largest and most powerful in the world, with an actual cash capitalization of nearly \$200,000,000. This is bedrock value, without one drop of water. "Andrew Carnegie will be at the head of the new company, and lead in a competition for the steel trade of the world."

MR. MCINNES'S AMENDMENT TO THE CAPE SCOTT ROAD BILL DEFEATED.

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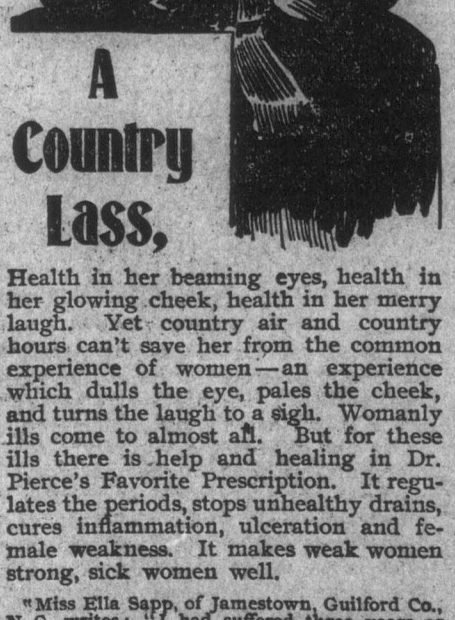
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ROBERTS'S ADVANCE.

Rapidity of Movements Paralyzed Enemy—Retreat From Colesburg. London, March 22.—A Standard dispatch from Bloemfontein, dated Thursday, March 21, says: "Four thousand Transvaalers from Colesburg trekked on Saturday and Sunday northeast, going by way of the Basutoland border. They will probably be caught in one of the passes. A striking feature of the advance on Bloemfontein was the abandonment of our communications at Poplar Grove. Lord Roberts, confident in the ability of the transport to meet all the immediate needs of the army, deliberately left the enemy at Abraham's Kraal to do what they liked. The result fully justified him. The enemy to the south were paralyzed by the boldness and rapidity of the stroke, and Generals Clements and Gatacre were enabled to cross the Orange river without opposition. Bloemfontein, March 21.—Lord Roberts, while inspecting the Naval Brigade on the plain outside the town, in the presence of many of the townspeople, addressed the men, thanking them for the excellent work they had done in the course of the campaign. He wished good luck to those who were about to rejoin the ships, and expressed the hope that the others would be present at the entry into Pretoria. Free Staters Surrendering. Mazra, Basutoland, March 21.—Everybody in the United States will have some idea of telegraphic communication with Alwal North. The proclamation of Lord Roberts is apparently effective, as the Free Staters are surrendering to the Basutoland officials. The occupation of Nchu and Honky by the British has produced an excellent impression, convincing the Basutos that the authority of the Queen is paramount. BY RAIL TO ELANDSLAAGTE. Where a Camp Has Been Formed—Watching the Passes. Ladysmith, March 21.—It has been ascertained that the accidental removal of stones covering some Boer graves, after the fight at Pieter's Hill on February 28, revealed thousands of split and rotted noses. A Christian's hospital train arrived this morning. It was the first train over the new Colenso bridge. The railroad is now open to Elandslaagte, where a camp has been established. Drakenburg and Biggarsburg are closely watched by the British cavalry. Feuds Between Prisoners. London, March 21.—Col. Challice, of the Army Service Corps, will sail for the island of St. Helena to-morrow in order to make the necessary arrangements for the accommodation there of Gen. Cronje and other banished Boers. It is still doubtful whether all the prisoners will be sent there, owing to the

NICARAGUAN CANAL.

It is Believed in Washington That Great Britain Will Accept the Davis Amendment to the Treaty. (Associated Press.) New York, March 22.—There are good reasons now for believing that Great Britain will accept the Davis amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, under which the United States will have the right to place the same safeguards around the Nicaraguan canal as the British government enjoys in respect to the Suez canal, says a Washington dispatch to the Herald. It is strongly intimated by a diplomat, usually well-informed, that Great Britain, with some show of reluctance at first, will in the end accept the amendment. The diplomat also expresses the opinion that all the European nations will join in the neutrality agreement contemplated by the treaty, notwithstanding the Davis amendment. MACHINISTS DECIDE TO STRIKE. (Associated Press.) Cleveland, Ohio, March 22.—After voting for over four hours in secret session at 2 a.m. to-day, 1,500 machinists of Cleveland unanimously decided on a strike, to go into effect at 8 o'clock this morning. The strike will affect about 35 machine shops and manufactories. The result of the decision of the ballot was received with cheers. TARRED AND FEATHERED. (Associated Press.) Greenba, Neb., March 22.—A mob took Louis Figg and wife, alleged religious fanatics, from their beds last night and treated them to a coat of tar and feathers. The mob numbered about 30 prominent citizens, and made no attempt at disguise. It is alleged that Figg and his wife caused a number of women to forsake home, husbands and children, and take up residence in the Figg "Heaven."



A Country Lass, Health in her beaming eyes, health in her glowing cheek, health in her merry laugh. Yet country air and country hours can't save her from the common experience of women—an experience which dulls the eye, pales the cheek, and turns the laugh to a sigh. Womanly life is come to almost all. But for these there is help and healing in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It regulates the periods, stops unhealthy drains, cures inflammation, ulceration and female weakness. It makes weak women strong, sick women well. "Miss Ella Sapp, of Jamestown, Guilford Co., N. C. writes: 'I had suffered three years or more at monthly periods. It seemed as though I would die with pain in my back and stomach. I could not stand without fainting; had given up all hope of ever being cured, when one of my friends insisted upon my trying Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. With little faith I tried it, and before I had taken half a bottle I felt better—had better appetite and slept better. Now I am happy to say I am entirely cured, and all done in two months' time, when all other medicines had failed to do any good at all.' Billousness is cured by the use of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets.

Chinese on Railways

Mr. McInnes's Amendment to the Cape Scott Road Bill Defeated.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER OBJECTED TO QUESTION BEING DISCUSSED IN COMMITTEE.

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