

Old World Topics

Touched Upon by Cable Correspondents—Englishmen Forget All Else but Mafeking—The Situation Reviewed—Turn of Events Fortunate for Salisbury—Sad Tales From India—France in a State of Political Uncertainty.

London, May 20.—Isaac N. Ford's latest cable, filed at 6 o'clock this morning, is without additional official confirmation of the relief of Mafeking, though concurrent confirmation is treated by him as positive proof of the raising of the siege. He says:

No official news of the relief of Mafeking has yet been received at the war office, but from more than one source it is reported that the siege was raised last Wednesday. The columns of the newspapers are again filled with accounts of national rejoicings in London and the provinces. But, apart from Gen. Buller's dispatch, there is very little fresh intelligence from the front this morning.

It is reported that a British column is advancing on the Transvaal from Zululand, but no details are forthcoming.

Gen. Buller was on Friday at Tloane, 28 miles southeast of Winburg. His march has been through an exceedingly difficult country, but he does not appear to have met with any opposition.

London has been waving the flag all these hours without waiting for official confirmation of the good news from Mafeking, but the suspicion that President Kruger might be beguiling the British Empire was in the air. The relief of the town which does not mean the relief of the rolling columns holding high carnival in the streets.

BULLETINS FROM THE RELIEF FORCE.

The chief additions to the stock of public knowledge come from Cape Town, where details respecting the organization of the relief column were at last allowed to pass the censor. Bulletins have been received from the relief force from time to time, and there was no opposition until it reached Kraaipan, and even there resistance was feeble. The column advanced at the rate of twenty miles a day, keeping to the west of the railway through the Vryburg district, and halting on May 11 at Maritzburg, 25 miles south of Mafeking.

THE BOERS' LAST ATTACK.
As the Boer assault was made the following day, Col. Baden-Powell was following upon his own resources for repulsing the last desperate effort of the enemy.

The relief column entered Mafeking on Tuesday or Wednesday, after meeting with little resistance. One account, alleged to be from the relief column, speaks of an attack in strong force upon it, after which the Boers bolted, fighting a rear guard action for some time.

PLUMER CARRIES THE SUPPLIES.

These details are meagre, but it is evident that the function of the relief column was to attack the besieging force and disperse it, rather than to open the railway and provision the starving town. Its advance was closely timed with Roberts' movement northward, and with Hunter's attack on Fourteen Streams, and under cover of these larger operations it escaped observation, and having been organized and equipped with special reference to mobility, it pressed forward with all possible dispatch.

The retreat of the Boers will enable Col. Plumer to enter Mafeking from the north with additional supplies, and the railway will speedily be repaired from Salisbury, where Gen. Carrington, with the Australian bushmen and Canadian artillery and other forces, will be in a position to cooperate with the Mafeking garrison.

A SKILLFUL MOVEMENT.

Whether the leader of the relief column was Col. Mahon, who was Kitchener's trusted lieutenant in the Sudan, or some other officer not yet named, the main credit for the deliverance of Mafeking belongs to Gen. Roberts and Gen. Buller, who planned the movement with amazing skill and prevision. The success of this relief expedition is another proof of the mastery of generalship which has transformed the military situation in South Africa. There was a disturbing report during the day to the effect that Col. Baden-Powell had been dangerously wounded, but it was not confirmed from any trustworthy source.

Gen. Roberts' advance is not yet reported, but his cavalry is doing effective work in scouring the districts toward the Vaal.

REJOICING.

Columns might be written about the scenes of public rejoicing in London yesterday. Business was virtually suspended, and the rollicking crowds were in possession until midnight. The National Anthem was sung by 5,000 voices in the stock exchange. There was a service of thanksgiving in St. Paul's, and the Abbey was crowded in the afternoon. Baden-Powell's mother's house, near Hyde Park corner, was surrounded hour after hour

with throngs, cheering lustily for the hero of Mafeking. Every shop front was aflame with the national colors, and at night Pall Mall, the Strand, Piccadilly and Whitehall were brilliantly illuminated. Hour after hour there was high revel in the streets; every man, woman and child carried a flag, and there was a saturnalia of practical joking and high spirits. Even Ladysmith Day was dull and prosaic in comparison with Mafeking Day, with its multitudes of merry-makers, its street parades, musicians and flag-bearers, marching to drum beat and bugle call; its rollicking choruses at every corner, and its pandemonium of madcap hoodlumism and holiday sport. The celebration was a spontaneous outbreak of public rejoicing, and was a most amazing revelation of the fervor of metropolitan patriotism.

ANNEXATION OF THE FREE STATE.

The same correspondent predicts the annexation of the Free State by proclamation of Lord Roberts, upon the Queen's Birthday, and discusses at some length the strategy of that commander. He says: "It is believed in influential circles that Lord Roberts intends to issue a proclamation of annexation on the Queen's Birthday, and that the movements of the next few days will be conducted with that end in view. When Bethlehem and Heilbron are occupied, the conquest of the Free State will be completed, and a proclamation of annexation will be a convenient substitute for a conventional treaty of peace. With Methuen at Hoopstad, Broadwood at Lindley, and Rundle marching on eastward, from the Winburg-Ladybrand line, there is cumulative evidence of Roberts' plan to annex the Free State in a manner as unique as his method of celebrating Majuba Day."

ROBERTS' MARVELOUS STRATEGY.
In speaking of Roberts' strategy, Mr. Ford says: Roberts' strategy is recognized as suitable for the emergency. The defense of Mafeking is a feat of arms which appeals to national pride, and it is matched by the brilliant conduct of the small relief expedition, starting at a moment when the Boer commandos could not be massed against it, and it arrived at the appointed time. The clearance of the Free State and the advance toward the Vaal have been carried out with equal certainty of judgment, and the strategy was even more scientific than the opening of Roberts' campaign in the direction of Kimberley and Bloemfontein.

SPENSER WILKINSON'S VIEWS.

Spenser Wilkinson, in reviewing the situation in South Africa, says: "Whether the Boer stands south of the Vaal, on the Vaal, at Pretoria or at Lydenburg, they must be crushed, for they have only between 20,000 and 30,000 men, and Lord Roberts has, counting his own column and those of Gen. Buller, Hunter and Methuen, no less than 90,000 men, all of whom shortly will be ready to invade the Transvaal positions. At the date of the last telegrams received Lord Roberts was at Kromstad with his mounted troops spread out some forty or fifty miles on either flank. Gen. Buller was at Lydenburg, and Gen. Buller and his division were at Lydenburg, and Gen. Buller and his division were at Lydenburg, and Gen. Buller and his division were at Lydenburg."

MAFEEKING THE ONLY TOPIC.

London, May 20.—Mafeking, the splendid stand of its heroic defenders and their timely relief, formed the sole topic of conversation here, the other events of the week being entirely swept out of the memory of the people of England. In fact, they have well-nigh forgotten Lord Roberts and the main object of the war, so overwhelming is their rejoicing over the deliverance of the garrison of the little African village. Neither Kimberley nor Ladysmith appealed to their sympathies as did Mafeking, and it will probably be days before the country will settle down to a sober appreciation of the struggle still going on on the African plains, and which still presents serious military problems.

THE ELEVENTH HOUR.

There is a great demand for the car-

toon published in Punch entitled "The Eleventh Hour," in which Col. Baden-Powell is drawing the attention of Mafeking, depicted as a man-faced woman, to a telegram based on a real message. "Hold on till the 18th," Roberts," Col. Baden-Powell is represented as saying. "All right. Cheer up, Roberts is a man of his word."

SALISBURY IN LUCK.

The successful turn that affairs have taken in South Africa is most fortunate for Lord Salisbury, as his weakest point, his foreign administration, had threatened to become an all too prominent topic. The news that Russia had secured a coal depot in Corea, as announced in a dispatch to the Times from Peking, has raised a storm of indignation, and many of the Conservative organs have declared this is merely another unfortunate instance of the premier's incapacity to protect British interests in the far east. Among those who study Chinese questions the belief obtains that Russia's latest move is a direct breach of contract with and a blow against Great Britain and Japan, which brings these nations face to face with a grave crisis which pusillanimous diplomacy will neither end nor mend. The Globe, for instance, openly advocates immediate sending a powerful fleet to Corea and bluntly demanding that Russia forego the advantages she is alleged to have secured in contravention with the agreements of 1881. However, though the important organs are in a bad humor over the matter, it is said on good authority that Lord Salisbury has much to keen an appreciation of Great Britain's present troubles to take any hasty action in the impetuous future, and that he only contemplates diplomatic inquiries and passive aid to Japan in the protests she will doubtless make.

THE FAMINE IN INDIA.

The secretary of state for India, Lord George Hamilton, has granted the Associated Press permission to inspect the unpublished official correspondence received up to date in his department dealing with the Indian famine. The mass of reports which have been the last mail one from the hosts of civil servants who are striving desperately to stay the onward march of the devastating evils that threaten to sap the life of India almost baffles condensation. And not only is the picture revealed by reason of the very strength of terse verbiage and official reticence a wealth of pathos and world suffering which columns of vivid description could scarcely convey. What, for instance, could better tell the tale of sorrow than the following report of the commissioner of Kherwar, in Rajpootana. With careful regard for the regulations governing communications he abruptly commences: "Kherwar: Crops—Practically nil. Water—Hardly any. Cattle—All dead. Fodder—Nil. People—Thrifting class dead. People with small means at the end of their resources and either on relief works or lying. Crime—Abnormal." With a pathetic frankness found in few of these gruesome documents submitted to the Associated Press, nobody has tried desperately to keep the bazaar open to all, but as I have only 600 rupees, lent me by the merwar at Darbar, with which to purchase grain, I have miserably failed, and hundreds have come to me daily for permission to buy and have been refused."

BRITISH ADVANCING MONEY.

However, Sir Charles Bernard, head of the India office bureau of revenue, tells the Associated Press that the British are advancing to these states loans wherever feasible, and says they will in for their full share of the relief sent from the United States. From those commissioners of native states who are daily able to advise instead of ordering the native officials to come most distressing news as to the conditions of their territories, not yet hinted at in the English newspapers. But throughout the harrowing documents are lines of hopefulness born of the servant such a makes the difference between famine and pestilence. One resident of Rajpootana reports that the death of Sir John tells that only 148 persons died of starvation in May.

THE DEATH RECORD.

In the course of a cheery report the resident of Western Rajpootana expresses regrets that he is obliged to record 6,667 deaths as occurring in the famine camps, hospitals and poor-houses in the comparatively small state of Marwar during March, while another resident supplies this ghastly record of wholesale mortality by remarking that at Dhanuera, out of 1,000 persons congregated around the relief works, 1,119 have died between February 22 and March 25, and this has no bearing on the inroads of the plague or cholera. From the latter cause 61 died at Naghpore during March. Capt. Grant, on famine duty at Marwar, reports that the majority of fatalities were not preceded by any great illness. Old persons weak and with oedema of the feet, sit at their relief works all day long, draw their pay, eat a bit of food, and die during the night. Nothing can be done for them. They will not go to the hospital. While plague and cholera add to the evils of the famine, there are still other evils frequently mentioned in the dispatches, which consist chiefly of the Dacoits, who are raiding the few cattle are left and the refugees, who to quote the commissioner of Kherwar, are often from the distant states, have abandoned their children.

FRANCE IN A FLURRY.

The unexpected result of the Paris municipal elections, so unfavorable to the government, has thrown France into a state of political uncertainty, which the reassembling of the chamber of deputies on Tuesday will help clear up. The opening debate will show how the home feeling in Paris influenced the position of the ministry in the proceedings at Palais Bourbon. Prior to the adjournment of the session it was indicated that the cabinet's hold on the chamber was far from secure, and the snap on the face received may be followed by a coup de grace from the deputies. In any case the fight in the municipal arena is only the curtain raiser to a more deadly struggle between the Nationalists and the Nationalists, encouraged by their victory, are determined to try a fall with Waldeck-Rousseau at the earliest opportunity. The Nationalists are certain of the support of the malcontent Republicans, headed by ex-Premier Meline, who are incensed at the socialist tint given the ministerial policy by the predominant influence of M. Millerand, the minister of commerce, and also by the gov-

ernment's partiality towards the Dreyfus party.

MARCHAND WANTS A NEW MISSION.

Major Marchand, the hero of Fashoda, is eager to win fresh laurels. He is announced to have requested the colonial office to entrust him with a new mission in Africa. Major Marchand, since his return to France, has been holding himself in the background, in obedience to the desires of the government, and has modestly refrained from accepting opportunities to be run as a second Boulanger. He wishes to go to the region of Lake Tchad to organize the fruits of the recent French expedition and to put French influence in South Africa on a more secure basis.

LAKE ERIE FREE OF ICE.

Cleveland, May 21.—Capt. McAlpin, master of the steamer City of Erie, which came in from Buffalo Friday, reported that he encountered no ice whatever at the lower end of the lake, and that he made the run on schedule time. Captain Smith, of the City of Buffalo, made the same report at the other end of the route. It was the first trip that the big steamers did not have to check down on account of ice.

MILLIONS OF BATS.

Niles, Mich., May 21.—Millions of bats fill the air every evening on Main street. The old Reading House in this city was overhauled a year or so ago with the intention of opening a fine hotel, and Chicago parties became interested, but the project fell through and the building was closed. A huge chimney was constructed, and since then the bats have occupied it. They multiply rapidly.

A POPULAR MISTAKE.

Regarding Remedies for Dyspepsia and Indigestion.

The national disease of Americans is indigestion, or, in its chronic form, dyspepsia, and for the very reason that it is so common many people neglect taking proper treatment for what may come to be a chronic stomach trouble, when as a matter of fact, indigestion lays the foundation for many incurable diseases. No person with a vigorous, healthy stomach will fall a victim to consumption, cancer, kidney diseases and heart troubles date their beginning from poor digestion; thin, nervous people are really so because their stomachs are out of gear; weary, languid, faded-out women owe their condition to imperfect digestion.

When nearly every person you meet is afflicted with weak digestion it is not surprising that nearly every secret patent medicine on the market claims to be a cure for dyspepsia, and a score of other troubles, when, in fact, as Dr. Werthler says, there is but one genuine dyspepsia cure which is perfectly safe and reliable, and, moreover, this remedy is not a patent medicine, but it is a scientific combination of pure pepsin (free from animal matter, vegetable essences, fruit salts and bismuth). It is sold by druggists under the name of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets. No extravagant claims are made for them, but for indigestion or any stomach trouble, Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are far ahead of any remedy yet discovered. They act on the food eaten, no digging is necessary, simply eat all the wholesome food you want, and these tablets will digest it. A cure results, because all the stomach needs is a rest, which Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets give by doing the work of digestion.

BLEW OUT THE GAS.

Port Huron, Mich., May 21.—Ira Goodman and Andrew Bowen, two young men hailing from Lakeport, but working in this city, went over to Sarnia to help celebrate the relief of Mafeking, and both had an exceedingly narrow escape from death. They missed the last boat, went to bed at a hotel at 1 o'clock Saturday morning, and before retiring either blew out the gas or opened the valve after having turned it off. When called at 6 o'clock they were found unconscious, and were at first thought to be beyond hope, but by resorting to heroic medical treatment were successfully revived. Both victims are still very sick men.

HOUSEHOLD REMEDIES.

Radway's Ready Relief, Radway's Sarsaparilla Resolvent and Radway's Pills are standard household medicines that have outlived all competition. Their merit is so well established that dealers or druggists find it unprofitable to even attempt substitution. While regular physicians are not friendly as a rule to most proprietary medicines, yet Radway's Remedies enjoy the unreserved favor of physicians of all schools. Radway's Ready Relief should be in every family, factory, hospital, home and institution. It has extraordinary power and much unnecessary suffering may be prevented by its prompt application.

We print below one of the many letters voluntarily sent to Radway & Co. daily:

"I take my pen in hand to inform you of the great cure effected by your medicine. Some time ago my husband was taken down with lung fever. It came on him with a chill in the night. It happened I had a supply of the medicine in the house at the time. I rubbed his chest and back with the Radway's Ready Relief. I gave him a teaspoonful in a little hot water to drink, to help warm and stimulate him, and in about half an hour three of the Radway's Pills. By the time the doctor came the next morning he was much better. The doctor wanted to know what I had been doing. I told him. He said that the doctor was very good. Another case I had was with my little nephew that was staying with me. He was taken with the croup. I rubbed his chest, throat and back with the Ready Relief, gave him doses about an hour apart; followed it by a dose of pills. By the next day he was about all right. I have been using this medicine with my family and my neighbors, for about 20 years, and never knew it to fail. When the directions were carefully followed. I would feel gratefully obliged to you to please forward me 'False and True,' one of your publications, for which I enclose stamp, for I absolutely need it at once, if you please. You are at liberty to make use of this testimony as you may think proper. Dr. Radway, a friend of mine, has been using your resolvent for scrofula and skin eruptions for years. He says she would be ever so much obliged to you if you would please forward it to me for her. Yours respectfully, 'MRS. ELIZA DUNN, 'Jacksonville, Morgan County, Ill.'"

LAXA-CARA tablets are specially recommended for children. Gentle, cleansing and regulating. All druggists. 25 cents per box.

Flavilla Well, to tell you the honest truth, I don't think I can wear boscine more than anything else.

Don't Drift Too Far!

Don't drift around on the sea of life like a dismantled wreck—a burden to yourself and a menace to the safety or happiness of others. A little precaution will save you. Just as the careful mariner seeks a safe harbor until the storm is over, so you should take precautions to stop the first inroads of disease. A constipated condition, those incipient attacks of dyspepsia or biliousness—those occasional headaches—that loss of energy and condition of similar illnesses. Whether incipient or chronic, these ills, and those akin to them, can be prevented at their inception, or cured if chronic, by the use of that genuinely successful English remedy,

Abbey's Effervescent Salt

Abbey's Salt is made principally from the salts extracted from the juices of Fresh Fruits—Nature's remedy! The use of this standard preparation not only ensures constant good health, but cures permanently and positively such ills as Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Flatulency, Headache (nervous or otherwise), and all diseases arising from an impure condition of the blood. Dr. C. C. Alexander, Albany, N. Y., states: "I think Abbey's Salt is a grand preparation to stimulate the secretions, ridding the blood of bile. I am prescribing it on all appropriate occasions. Use it daily and enjoy constant good health. All druggists, 25c., and 6c."

LAWN MOWERS

TEMPERED BLADES,

Medium 8-inch wheel and 10½-inch high wheel; also American New Model and Ballbearing.

Sizes—12, 14, 16, 18 Inches.

LAWN RAKES, GARDEN RAKES, GARDEN TROWELS, GARDEN SHEARS,

LAWN HOSE, SPRINKLERS, NOZZLES, HOSE REELS, ETC.

Screen Doors, Window Screens

ALL STYLES AND SIZES.

All of Above at Lowest Cash Prices.

REID'S HARDWARE,

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Binder Twine.

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Hay Fork Rope.

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