

ABOUT MAFFKING.

Persistent Rumor in London That the Town Has at Last Been Relieved.

Transport Milwaukee With Canadian Mounted Rifles, Has Arrived at Cape Town.

Pretoria is Being Prepared to Stand a Siege of Two Years Nothing Has Developed as to Buller's Plans.

GIVES ALL CREDIT TO BULLER. LONDON, March 21.—Winston Churchill, in a despatch dated Pietermaritzburg, warmly resists the contention that the relief of Ladysmith arose out of Lord Roberts's operations...

WHAT NEW ZEALAND WILL DO. WELLINGTON, N. Z., March 20.—In bidding farewell today to the fourth contingent of New Zealand troops, leaving for service in South Africa, the premier, Hon. R. J. Sedden, emphasized the determination of Australia to uphold the imperial flag...

THE BOMBS. LONDON, March 20.—The war office has received the following despatch from Lord Roberts, dated Bloemfontein, Tuesday, March 14: "Kitchener occupied Pieter's Pass yesterday morning. The rebels surrendered their arms. The Transvaalers escaped across the river."

FROM LORD ROBERTS. LONDON, March 20.—The war office has received the following despatch from Lord Roberts, dated Bloemfontein, Tuesday, March 14: "Kitchener occupied Pieter's Pass yesterday morning. The rebels surrendered their arms. The Transvaalers escaped across the river."

THE JOHANNESBURG MINES. LONDON, March 21.—The correspondent of the Daily News at Bloemfontein says he learns from a person who was recently in Johannesburg that the Transvaal government is working the Forriera, Bonanza, Robinson, Pioneer, Rosa, Village, Landlaagte and Robinson deep mines.

FOR AND AGAINST ANNEXATION. CAPE TOWN, March 19.—At a recent meeting of the Afrikaans Bond it was decided to invite signatures to a petition to the people of Great Britain, asking their support to prevent the Transvaal and Orange Free State from being deprived of their independence.

TO PREPARE FOR CRONJE. LONDON, March 21.—Colonel Challice, of the Army Service Corps, sails for the island of St. Helena tomorrow in order to make the necessary arrangements for the accommodation of three of Gen. Cronje and the other British Boers. It is still doubtful whether all the prisoners will be sent there, owing to the feuds between the Transvaalers and the Free States.

DEATHS AT LADYSMITH. LONDON, March 20.—Gen. Buller reports that 27 deaths from enteric fever occurred in Ladysmith from March 7 to March 19.

FLYING WHITE FLAGS. LONDON, March 21.—A despatch to 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 join the ship, and expressed the hope that the others would be present at the entry into Pretoria.

STANDING TOGETHER. BERLIN, March 21.—The Kreez Zeitung in a somewhat article dealing with the South African war says: "The war has demonstrated the unanimity of feeling among the English. They are all standing together, though good or evil portend, and command the admiration of the world. It has also shown that the imperial flag is the strength of the imperialistic idea, having done so much in welding the colonies into a veritable empire."

USED SOFT NOSED BULLETS. LADYSMITH, March 21.—It has been ascertained that the accidental removal of stones covering some Boer graves, after the fight at Pieter's Pass, 23, revealed thousands of split and soft nosed bullets.

SWITZERLAND'S REPLY. BERNE, Switzerland, March 21.—The federal council has answered the Boer appeal for aid in the following terms: "The Swiss federal council would have been pleased to co-operate in friendly mediation in order to hasten the peaceful settlement of the South African war. But as the presidents of both South African republics have directly approached the British government, the Swiss federal council is bound to accept the intervention of any power, the Swiss federal council, to its regret, must remain neutral in the present circumstances."

ROBERTS' BOLD MOVE. LONDON, March 22.—A despatch to the Daily Mail from Pretoria, dated Monday, March 19, says: "President Kruger returned from Kromstad yesterday. He says the fight in the Free State will be desperate. I am informed that the Transvaal government has taken no resolution to destroy mines or property of the British."

FRASER A NOVA SCOTIAN. HALIFAX, N. S., March 20.—John Fraser, mayor of Bloemfontein, who was one of the delegation that appeared before Lord Roberts and handed to him the keys of the city, is a Nova Scotian. His native place is McLellan's Brook, Pictou county, one hundred miles from this city. His father was a school teacher in that district and lived on a farm owned by Rev. William Stewart, Presbyterian minister.

BOBS' AND THE NAVAL BRIGADE. BLOEMFONTEIN, March 21.—Lord Roberts, while inspecting the naval brigade on the plain outside the town,

AN ACT OF VANDALISM. PRETORIA, March 21, 5 p. m., via Lourenzo Marques.—The Rand Post says it has been advised that there will be a general destruction of the mines before the British are allowed to occupy the gold fields. The Standard and Eggers' News of Johannesburg strongly opposes such a measure. It declares that the destruction of the mines would be an act of vandalism which would alienate the sympathy of friendly powers.

NEXT AT PRETORIA. BLOEMFONTEIN, March 21.—Lord Roberts gave a banquet last night to his commanding officers and the foreign military attaches in proposing the health of the foreign attaches. Lord Roberts complimented them on their soldierly bearing in enduring the privations of the arduous march to Bloemfontein. He added that he hoped he would next entertain them at Pretoria.

KRUGER AND STEYN DIFFER. LONDON, March 21.—A despatch to the Morning Post from Bloemfontein, dated Wednesday, says: "A despatch reports that the enemy, after repeated discussions, has withdrawn from Benfontein northwards. He thinks it unlikely that the Boers will make a stand anywhere south of the Vaal. I cannot personally share such optimism."

NO CHARGE AGAINST METHUEN. LONDON, March 22.—Replying in the House of Commons today to a series of questions on the subject of Gen. Lord Methuen and his alleged disagreement with the officers of his column, which have caused considerable excitement in the parliamentary quarters for the war office, Gen. Wyndham, declared no charge had been brought against Gen. Methuen by Col. Gough or any other officer. Col. Gough, he added, has been informed that an inquiry would be held into his case raised.

NO PEACE OVERTURES. LONDON, March 22.—It has been learned that no new peace overtures have been made to Lord Salisbury nor any expected at present by Great Britain. The telegraphic correspondence has been confined to the military situation and prisoners. The question of the safety of Johannesburg and the gold mines there has not been raised.

A LADY'S EXPERIENCES AT MODDER RIVER. (Natal Mercury.) A Gravelton lady has received from her sister at Modder River a letter containing the following: "With the Boers coming and going, I had a hard time of it. After the first week we had no food, and could not buy any, because the Boers thought it all up, and would not sell me any, although they gave it by the bagful to Mrs. B. and Mrs. L. But then, I was British. The consequence was that we were starving for weeks. I sent to ask someone to sell me 2 lbs. worth of meal, and they sent word back to the effect that they would see me later on. For 12 days I had only one egg a day, and the children had to go out and pick 'winkies.' When the Transvaalers came in matters were worse, for they were more like savages than civilized men. Finally, when our troops arrived, it was simply awful! For thirteen hours they did not stop fighting for five minutes, and the Free States like peas. I am quite sure that 3,000 were killed, and lots of them thrown into the river. Others were hurled, but some were not quite dead at the time, for our men subsequently found them with their arms and legs sticking up as if they had tried to get out upon negotiating consciousness. The Boers put dynamite close to my house with the object of blowing it up. They also laid some all round the station and by the bridge, but the British were too quick upon them. Now we are safe; the Boers are around us, but they cannot get to the line. I am confident that they cannot hold out much longer, for the only food they have is meat, and it will not be long before our troops have them surrounded. On the day of the battle the explosion of the shells over our heads were awful, as were likewise the showers of bullets around us. At about 12.20, 300 Boers, with two cannons, came down from Fourteen Streams, and they had only just got into the drift when a shell fell amongst them, killing some and wounding 20 others. The latter came to me to find out their wounds, which I did. Just then one got shot in the knee, and no one would go out to help him, so I had to go and do my best. Up to 12 o'clock at night, the wounded kept coming in, and the first thing in the morning I went out under fire three times to attend to others and look after them until our troops came over, when I handed them all—some 45 in number—to Lord Plunkwood, who took the prisoners and sent them to Cape Town in charge of four doctors."

BOERS MOVING NORTH. MASERU, Basutoaland, Thursday, March 22.—Several thousands of Boers...

FIGHTING NEAR WARRENTON. KIMBERLEY, Thursday, March 22.—There was a smart artillery duel near Warrenton yesterday morning. A battery under Major Blowitz, supported by the Kimberley Light Horse, located the Boers, who employed four guns, two of which were corvette, but ineffectively. The British battery replied with effect and silenced the Boer fire. The Boers sent two shells near the railway station, which was not damaged.

FIGHTING NEAR WARRENTON. PRETORIA, March 19, 3 p. m., via Lourenzo Marques.—Sharp fighting continues in the vicinity of Warrenton, northward of Kimberley. The Boers have successfully repulsed repeated attacks by the British. The railway in the direction of Mafeking has been completely destroyed.

ON THE ROAD TO MAFFKING. LONDON, March 21.—A despatch to the Times from Kimberley, dated Thursday, says: "The date of the departure of the Mafeking column from here has not yet been fixed. The head of the railway has reached Constantia, about 36 miles north of Kimberley. The point at Fourteen Streams is guarded by our troops. Skirmishing continues around Warrenton. The Boers are reported to have four guns, but this is doubted."

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MILWAUKEE ARRIVES. MONTREAL, March 22.—The Elder Dempster agents here received a cable from Cape Town announcing the arrival of the transport Milwaukee at 11.10 last night, after a most successful voyage. The cable reported that all went well.

OTTAWA, March 22.—The following cable was received at the militia department today: CAPE TOWN, March 21, 1900.—Transport Milwaukee arrived at Cape Town today. All well. 38 horses dead. (Signed), DON GORDON.

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