

The Daily Telegraph

VOL. XXXVIII.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY MARCH 17, 1900.

NO. 58.

THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD.

Three Newspaper Men Were the First Into Bloemfontein and Arranged for its Surrender.

Bloemfontein, Tuesday, March 13.—Lord Roberts entered the Free State capital today practically unopposed. He lay at Venter's Vlei, 14 miles away last night with Gen. Kelly-Kenny's army. Gen. Colville's divisions, the Guards Brigade and the mounted infantry. Gen. French having cut the railway and telegraph, experienced a slight skirmish with some Boers holding a kopje southeast of the town. Early in the morning the cavalry brigade moved forward and occupied slowly several kopjes which commanded the Boers. A few yards away from the kopje, the Boers were ordered to surrender. A little later the deputation began to approach and Lord Roberts went forward to meet them. The scene was picturesque in the extreme. A few yards away the guns of a battery pointed their grim mouths toward the late position of the Boers, while the tin roofs of Bloemfontein shone in the distance. After salutes had been exchanged a member of the deputation stepped forward and declared that the town, being without defences, wished to surrender, hoping that Lord Roberts would protect life and property. He replied that, provided there was no opposition, he would undertake to guarantee the security of both. The interview was very cordial, without a sign of solemnity. It struck this correspondent that the deputation seemed relieved by the presence of the British troops. Lord Roberts notified the deputation his intention of entering the town in state and they withdrew to inform the townspeople. Lord Roberts then made his military dispositions, ordering the First Brigade to follow him and to take possession of the town. With his staff and the military attaches he descended the kopje and arrived on the plain, where he waited until the cavalry approached. Then he entered the city, followed by his personal staff, the general staff, the military attaches and troops.

STATE SECRETARY REITZ'S REFUTATION OF THE NOTE.

He Says Great Britain Has Long Been Planning Against the Transvaal's Independence.

Pretoria, Wednesday, March 14.—State Secretary Reitz's refutation of Lord Salisbury's argument in the reply to the Bloemfontein joint note was issued today. Mr. Reitz says: "The British government, after the Bloemfontein conference, endeavored to enforce by threats certain changes in the internal government of the Transvaal republic, contrary to the London convention. They also imported troops in great numbers and broke off negotiations with a threat to take their own means to remove the grievances of their subjects. "After waiting a fortnight, while an army corps was prepared and the reserves were being called out by the British, President Steyn asked the reason of these proceedings. Sir Alfred Milner refused to reply. "Meanwhile Mr. Chamberlain, in his speeches, showed the world that England had decided on war. Accordingly the Transvaal republic addressed to the British government a demand for its withdrawal of their troops, as otherwise it would accept the presence of the troops as a declaration of war. This was not necessarily intended as a message of war. "Concerning the armaments, Mr. Reitz says: "These were bought openly in England and in Europe; and the high commissioner boasted full knowledge of them. The Bloemfontein conference, and also full descriptions of these armaments were found among the officers' papers at Dundee. "Both the army and the ultimatum were protective measures, subsequent to the raid and to the discovery, through concealed cables, that British cabinet ministers were implicated in the attempt to flinch away the independence of the republic. Now all doubt is removed by Lord Salisbury's debarment. The burghers must fight for their national existence, trusting that God will defend the right."

MORE PRAISE FOR PREMIER LAURIER.

London Papers Abound with Praise for the Speech in Which He Voiced Canada's Sentiments.

Toronto, March 15.—The Telegram's special cable from London says: Nearly every one of the London journals of prominence alludes to Sir Wilfrid Laurier's speech in the Canadian House of Commons Tuesday night, on the occasion of the debate on the resolutions regarding Canadian contingents in South Africa. The Daily Mail characterized the Canadian premier as one of the master speakers of the British Empire. "The Morning Herald terms the speech patriotic, and declares that among the brave men of the Canadians those of French-British extraction helped to win the splendid victories that resulted in the capture of Bloemfontein by Lord Roberts. The Daily News says the speech is remarkable in more ways than we can discuss today. The Morning Standard remarks Premier Laurier once again touched the chord just now vibrating in the heart of the population of the Empire. The Pall Mall Gazette says the speech burns with sustained passion and eloquence that no English statesman could easily in these self-conscious days. The Morning Post looks upon the speech as one of impassioned and splendid eloquence. The other papers make similar comment. Montreal, March 15.—The Star's special cable from London says: The action of the Dominion parliament by voting down the Bourassa resolutions and the speech of Premier Laurier are still a subject of general comment. The Times says the speech of the premier would rank high in any assembly of the world as a model of noble eloquence and that thoughts underlying it are pregnant with great issues for England and for mankind. The Times continues: "We look forward to a day not far distant in the life of nations when a Boer premier of a South African dominion will kindle with a like devotion to the British flag." The Standard, the government organ, says the war has shown that the colonies have won the strongest claims to the privileges of the Empire by volunteering to assume its burdens. When such words as those which the Canadian House of Commons applauded to the echo were spoken more than ever we are convinced that the imperial government has no option left to carry the operations in South Africa to a definite and final settlement.

TURKS AND RUSSIANS MAY FIGHT AGAIN.

The Former Objects to Russia's Demands in Asia Minor for Railway Concessions.

Constantinople, March 15.—There is great anxiety in official circles regarding the Russian government's refusal to modify its demands regarding railroad concessions in Asia Minor. The Turkish government advises against submission and the sultan is awaiting a military report on the strategical aspect of the question before giving a decision.

GEN. JOUBERT HAS BEEN CUT OFF.

He was Marching to the Relief of Bloemfontein when Weston Cut the Railway—Three Correspondents Officiated at the Surrender of Bloemfontein—Reitz Says England Has Been Plotting Against the Independence of the Two Republics.

London, March 15, 5 a. m.—Events are moving in the South African campaign in a speedy and satisfactory manner, from both the military and political points of view. It could hardly have been expected by the most sanguine Englishman that the Emperor Nicholas is personally prepared to accept the position of a self-governing British colony. The cheers which greeted the reading in parliament yesterday of the correspondence with the United States are echoed throughout the country. The speech of M. Delcasse has increased this satisfaction, and taken with the general belief that Emperor Nicholas is personally averse to any intervention, these incidents spread the idea that there will be further serious attempt to interfere from any quarter. Mr. Montague White's threat in an American newspaper that the Boers will sacrifice Johannesburg and raise it to the ground, if necessary is not taken very seriously. Mr. Chamberlain's statement that President Kruger has already been warned as to the consequences of such conduct is regarded as showing that sufficient precaution has been taken. The Times suggests that burghers should be warned that the Emperor Nicholas is personally averse to any damage to British property; but no serious apprehensions are entertained of such conduct as Mr. White's. Mr. Chamberlain, the millionaire mine owner, says he does not believe the Boers would be so foolish. "By the time Lord Roberts reaches the Vaal River he will command some 80,000 men, while General Buller will have 40,000. From the military point of view the critics now think there is nothing to fear."

PRESIDENT STEYN IS IN CONTEMPT.

Orange Free Staters Would Have Shot Him if They Had Known He Intended to Fle.

London, March 15.—The Times publishes the following from Bloemfontein dated Tuesday:—"Contempt for the flight of the Free Staters is universal among people asserting that President Steyn would have been shot if his intention to flee had been known. "More harm has been done the Dutch cause by the ignominious surrender than is conceivable and despite the statements of the broader of Steyn, it is doubtful if there will be any more resistance south of the Vaal. "A despatch to the Daily Mail from Lorenzo Marques dated Thursday says that strong commandos are massing at Warrenton, where the Free Staters are going to make a stand."

THE DELAGOA BAY AWARD MADE.

Stated a Printed Decision on the Railway Troubles will be in the Litigants' Hands in Four Months.

London, March 15.—Relative to the delay in regard to the Delagoa Bay railway award the Pall Mall Gazette this evening says it is authoritatively informed that Mr. John G. Lehmann, the United States minister to Switzerland, in addition to persistent unofficial representations, had addressed, on instructions from the state department, a strongly worded official protest to the federal government, a reply to which was received Feb. 16. In this communication the secretary of the tribunal said the arbitrators had arrived at a decision and that the printed judgment would be in the hands of the litigants probably within a half hour, but within eight weeks from that date.

THE BRITISH FORCES ARE UNITING.

General Pole-Carew Has Gone to Join Hands with Generals Gatacre and Clements.

London, March 15.—The war office has received the following from Lord Roberts: "Bloemfontein, Thursday, March 15, 7.35 p. m.—General Gatacre crossed the Orange River and occupied Bethany this morning. General Pole-Carew with 2,000 men of the Guards Brigade, two guns and a small body of mounted infantry, left here in three trains this morning to join hands with General Gatacre and General Clements. He had passed Bethany by 4.40 p. m. without meeting opposition, having been able to supply from his troops engine drivers, firemen, fitters, moulders, smiths, carpenters, etc."

A GREAT SEND-OFF FOR THE STRATHCONA HORSE.

Halifax is Going to Out-do Herself on This Occasion—The Men Are Arousing the Sleepy Town.

Halifax, March 15.—The Strathcona Horse is in the city. The first train load of troops and horses arrived this morning at 2.30, the second train load at 3.15 and the third at 5.30. Each train consisted of 22 cars and was drawn by two engines. The men did not travel in the style that usually falls to the lot of soldiers, but in the finest Pullmans and first-class coaches of the Intercolonial Railway. The journey down from Montreal was a very pleasant one and though the rate of travel was necessarily slow, occasions at the principal stations relieved the trip of all tediousness. On reaching Halifax the trains were run down to the "deep water" and the men who, for the most part were asleep, were not disturbed until 6 o'clock in the morning. They were breakfasted on board the train and at 8 o'clock were called out in companies and after roll call proceeded to detain horses. The cars containing the horses were run down the track into the shed at No. 3 pier. A large gangway was constructed leading from the door of

THE AMERICAN OFFER POLITELY DECLINED.

The British Government Had no Use for "Good Office" and Said So—The Correspondence Read Before the Senate.

London, March 15.—In the House of Commons today, replying to Mr. Wm. Redmond, Irish Nationalist, who asked whether the government of the United States had offered its good offices to Her Majesty's government with the view of bringing about peace in South Africa, Mr. A. J. Balfour said: "The United States charge d'affaires on March 10 communicated to Lord Salisbury the following telegram from Mr. Hay: 'By way of friendly and good office, inform the British minister of foreign affairs that the government of the United States has been made to the United States to intervene with the view of a cessation of hostilities, and saying that a similar request has been made to the representatives of European powers. In communicating this request I am directed by the president of the United States to express the earnest hope that a way will be found to bring about peace and that he would be glad in any friendly manner to aid in bringing about the desired result.' "The reading of the despatch was greeted with cheers from the Irish members. Continuing, Mr. Balfour said: "Lord Salisbury requested Mr. White to convey the sincere acknowledgments of Her Majesty's government to the government of the United States for the friendly tone of their communication and to say that Her Majesty's government did not propose to accept the intervention of any power in the settlement of South African affairs. "Lord and prolonged cheers followed this statement. "The Correspondence. "Washington, March 15.—In response to a resolution the president today sent to the senate the correspondence relating to the requests for mediation in South Africa. The first document is a despatch from Pretoria, dated March 10, which states:—"An official request by the governments of the republics to urge your intervention with view to cessation of hostilities; similar request made to representatives of European powers. Answer, confirm receipt. (Signed) American Consul. "Mr. Hay responded:—"Your telegram asking offices of United States to bring about cessation of hostilities has been made subject of friendly communication to the United States consul at Pretoria reporting that the governments of the two African republics request your intervention with a view to cessation of hostilities, and that a similar request is made to the representatives of European powers. In communicating this request, I am directed by the president to express his earnest hope that a way to bring about peace may be found and to say that he would be glad to aid in any friendly manner to promote so happy a result. (Signed) Hay. "Mr. White replied to Mr. Hay under date of March 13:—"I communicated yesterday to the under secretary for foreign affairs, having been unable to see Lord Salisbury, the contents of your telegram dated 10th instant. Today I have had an interview with his lordship, who requested me to thank the

president for the friendly interest shown by him and added that Her Majesty's government cannot accept the intervention of any power. (Signed) White. "Mr. Hay telegraphed the consul at Pretoria under date of March 14, the following:—"Your communication of request of public for intervention of the president in those cessation of hostilities was at once conveyed to British government with president's gratification could aid to promote peace. Our embassy, London, replies that Lord Salisbury, the president for friendly interest shown, adds Her Majesty's government cannot accept intervention of any other power. (Signed) Hay. "The president's message is simply of transmittal. "France's Attitude. "Paris, March 15.—The minister of foreign affairs, M. Delcasse, replying today in the senate to a question regarding the intentions of the government of France respecting events in South Africa, stated the intervention of the government in presence of the telegram, which the president for friendly interest shown, adds Her Majesty's government cannot accept intervention of any other power. (Signed) Hay. "The full statement of M. Delcasse was as follows:—"The request from the president of a republic for the intervention of powers had hardly reached the government of France, when the government of Great Britain published its reply that it was not disposed to consent to the independence of the two republics. Thus one of the belligerents declaring that it could make peace except on a condition which the other affirms it is not disposed to accept—it becomes manifest that any intervention upon such a basis would be superfluous. "The resolution of the conference at Hague can only be put in action when there is reason to assume that belligerents will not be inassable to them. "It was under these conditions that France offered mediation in the Spanish American war. Our relations with two belligerents were absolutely cordial and free from suspicion. French interests were directly involved. The mediation was successful. It was not a success. I accepted the mediation, which could give rise to a fear that the attitude of France would be remembered to the prejudice. "Moreover, I had reason to think that Washington would listen to overtures; undertook to communicate these; and that why, faithful to the best interests of France, which did not appear to me compatible with her essential interests, I was superior in my eyes to all other considerations. I accepted the mediation, and, as it was, the difficult mandate conferred me. "I have said enough to enable the senate to appreciate the difference between the two situations. "The minister then denied that France had refused to join Russia in making friendly suggestions of peace. "The union between France and Russia," M. Delcasse declares, "is a closer every day and defies all malvoles assertions to the contrary. (Signed) Hay. "Mr. White replied to Mr. Hay under date of March 13:—"I communicated yesterday to the under secretary for foreign affairs, having been unable to see Lord Salisbury, the contents of your telegram dated 10th instant. Today I have had an interview with his lordship, who requested me to thank the

BOER SPEECHES NOT TOLERATED.

The Government Will Not Inquire Why Disturbances are Organized—Mr. Balfour Says They are Spontaneous.

London, March 15.—Mr. Balfour, replying to Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman, the opposition leader, who asked whether the government would cause an inquiry as to how far and by whom the disturbances were organized and what steps would be taken to prevent their recurrence, said that every case of disturbance had been examined and that the demonstrations appeared to be spontaneous. He added that the government felt the responsibility rested with those who called the meetings in the heated state of public feeling. "Sir Robert T. Reid, Liberal, moved an adjournment with the view of raising a discussion of the question. "The whole opposition and all the Irish members stood up in support of Sir Robert Reid's motion. Sir Robert said he regretted the necessity of the motion and expected Mr. Balfour would show the government's unqualified disapproval of the disgraceful scenes, in place of which, the speaker asserted, he had thought proper to lecture those who had not asked for his advice. "Lord Fitzmaurice, Liberal member of parliament for the northern division of Wiltshire, suggested the government could withhold the police grants in the districts where the police did not do their duty, and Mr. Geo. Harley, Conservative mem-

ber for North Wiltshire, observed that those who held the meetings in question were a "parcel of semi-traitors and handful of agitators and scoundrels." He added that he was delighted at the show of feeling in the country, referring to the attempts to break up these meetings. "Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman said that though the government should have no all its influence in favor of free speech and expressed regret at the fact that no more satisfactory answer was given. "Sir William Vernon Harcourt, Liberal, supported the motion to adjourn. He declared Mr. Balfour's answer discounting the right of public meeting. "Mr. Balfour, replying, reiterated that pro-Boers were not justified in forcing their ideas, though possibly all right, in which were not agreeable to the majority of the nation. He denied he had anything inconsistent with the principle of free speech and asserted the government would do its best to see that the right of free speech in every legitimate form was safeguarded in every part of Her Majesty's dominions. "The motion was rejected by a vote of 229 to 120. "The secretary of state for the colonies Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, answering a question as to the threats to demolish the mines and raise Johannesburg, said that at the commencement of the war, President Kruger was warned that he and his government would be held personally responsible for any act contrary to the usage of civilized communities.



LADIES, BOYS AND GIRLS SEND YOUR full name and address and we will forward you 15 Packages of our new books to sell among your neighbors and friends at 10c per package. When sold return 15c and select from our mammoth catalogue your choice of Knives, Braces, Books, Chains, Pipes, Jack Knives, Stated Guard Chains, Fountain Pens, and many other articles. Address: STANDARD WATCH & JEWELRY CO., 57 N. B. ST., N. B.