

RECEIVED BY WIRE.

ACTION STOPS

And All Things Indicate Speedy Collapse of the War in the Transvaal.

WILL BE NO CHANGE FOR 3 WEEKS

Says Wire From War Correspondent at Bloemfontein.

ROBERTS IS BUSY MOBILIZING

Free State Telegraph Opened—British Authority Permanent and No Sympathy Offered Boers.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)
London, March 22, via Skagway, March 27.—Everything points to a speedy collapse of the war, but so far as military operations are concerned there have been practically no changes. Information from a war correspondent at Bloemfontein is to the effect that no further movements of any importance are anticipated within the next three weeks. Roberts is busy mobilizing all available forces and arranging for the transportation of supplies preparatory to the advance upon Pretoria.

The telegraph line running through the Orange Free State into Basutoland has been opened up. The officials have succeeded in convincing the Basutos that British authority is now paramount and no further expressions of sympathy in favor of the Boers are heard.

Roberts' proclamation commanding the Free Staters to desist from hostilities has had its effect. With the exception of a few guerilla bands the Free Staters have practically surrendered.

Removing Documents.
London, March 22, via Skagway, March 27.—Officials of the Boer government have removed all documents from the capital which would implicate President Steyn, of the Orange Free State. It is understood that the documents in question have been taken to Russia in charge of trusted government agents.

Frog Leg Feast.
Skagway, March 27.—Durand has reached Bennett and on his way to Dawson with 1000 quail and 400 pounds of frog legs. As the latter are spoiling very rapidly he sold a large part of his stock in Bennett yesterday when the whole town indulged in a frog leg feast, the first in its history.

McGillivray's Big Shipment.
Skagway, March 27.—Joseph McGillivray left here today for Bennett, the last of his 130 tons of freight having been shipped by rail to that place yesterday. It will be rushed on to Dawson with as little delay as possible for the Anglo-Klondike company, of which Joseph McGillivray and his son John, now in Dawson, are the principal representatives.

Not Yet Relieved.
London, March 22, via Skagway, March 27.—Mafeking has not yet been relieved despite the fact that dispatches were sent out a week ago announcing that the relief column had entered the town.

Will Soon End.
London, March 20, via Skagway, March 26.—Bets are freely offered that the Transvaal war will be completed before the middle of May. The Daily News publishes dispatches from the front which predict that the war will end as soon as Roberts is able to cover the distance between Bloemfontein and Pretoria. The Boers are gradually losing

hope and it is anticipated that no serious resistance will be offered until Pretoria is reached. The educated Boers fully realize the impossibility of the war being pushed to a successful issue and are importuning the government to bring hostilities to a close. They express a willingness to submit to the inevitable.

New Foundland Won't Join.
Ottawa, March 21, via Skagway, March 26.—Another effort is being made by the government to induce New Foundland to join the confederation. There is small hope of the movement succeeding.

Mr. Wilson En Route.
Skagway, March 26.—James M. Wilson, of the A. C. Co., arrived here on Saturday en route to Dawson over the ice. Mr. Wilson has just returned from an extended trip through the eastern cities of the United States and Canada. While at Ottawa he consulted the officials concerning the royalty. He is of the opinion that no reduction will be made during the present session of parliament. He states that in all probability a general election will take place in Canada during the coming June.

Women Armed.
London, March 20, via Skagway, March 26.—Dispatches from Cape Town announce that a corps of 2000 Boer women has been formed at Pretoria to assist in the defense of the town. The women are uniformed with kilts and number in their ranks many who are skilled in marksmanship. They are armed with the latest improved rifles.

Not Relieved.
London, March 20, via Skagway, March 26.—The reports received here on the 16th that the relief of Mafeking had been accomplished are now stated to be incorrect. The town is still under siege, but it is believed that the garrison is not suffering as much as has been stated in previous reports.

Loyalty Goes Wild.
London, March 18.—Queen Victoria and the people of the greatest city in her empire today celebrated the victories which they believe have transformed the campaign in South Africa from one of reverse into one of success. That is the only explanation of the unbounded, unparalleled enthusiasm with which hundreds of thousands hailed their sovereign. In many ways these demonstrations outdid those of the diamond jubilee, although there were no glittering pageants, no triumphal arches, no procession of princes, but only a dozen Life Guards followed by a little old lady in the plainest black costume, who had come for a few days' stay at Buckingham palace, as she has done many a time before.

Yet her hold upon the hearts of her people was probably never more strikingly manifested. Unlike that of the diamond jubilee, today's popular outburst was almost impromptu. The fierce pride in the strength of a mighty empire that pervaded London in exultation when the queen last drove through the streets in 1897 had vanished, and in its place there were genuine thankfulness and rejoicing for the victories which had succeeded months of gloom. The depth of feeling which this demonstration represented could only be gauged by those who mingled with the crowd. Mothers in deep mourning for sons killed on the far off veldt struggled bravely with the most hilarious to catch a glimpse of the queen, whose womanly sympathy and thoughtfulness for the soldiers had touched their hearts.

Four Clubs Drop Out.
New York, March 8.—The National Baseball League for the season of 1900 will have an eight club circuit. This announcement was made at the Fifth Avenue hotel at 11:30 o'clock tonight, when the league meeting adjourned. A verbal agreement will be formally executed. The retiring clubs are Washington, Baltimore, Louisville and Cleveland. Each club will receive a money consideration for its franchise. How much is not stated.

Earlier in the day it was reported that the Louisville franchise would be sold for \$10,000 and that the Wagner Bros. had consented to take about \$40,000 for their Washington franchise. No figures were given as to the demands of the Cleveland club or the Brooklyn-Baltimore combination. All the clubs dropped have the right under the agreement to reserve their players except Washington, which has been purchased outright by the league. Washington's players will be distributed among the other clubs. The Brooklyn-Baltimore combination controls the Baltimore players.

WEARY OF LIFE

The Honorable M. W. St. John Watson Beresford Would Go to His Death

BY WAY OF THE .38-CALIBRE ROUTE.

Scion of an Ancient and Noble Family Goes Wrong.

ONCE A TRUSTED SOLDIER.

Disgrace, More Imaginary Than Real, Prompts the Probably Unsuccessful Attempt to Die.

Scarce was the sun an hour high this morning when a tragedy which may result in the untimely death of the scion of a proud and noble Irish family was enacted in the upper portion of the city, and on a street about two blocks east from the barracks hospital. The only actor in the sad affair was M. W. Watson, as he is pleased to sign himself, but who is by birth and title permitted to sign the Honorable M. W. St. John Watson Beresford, of Creaduff House, Athlone, Ireland, who attempted to take his own life by discharging a .38 calibre revolver into and through the left side of his abdomen, the ball penetrating to the skin of the back from whence it was afterwards removed at the barracks hospital by Dr. Foster, of the Y. F. F., assisted by Drs. Thompson and Hurdman, of the N. W. M. P. hospital service.

M. W. Watson, as his name appears on the army roll, is probably 33 years of age, and has been in the service for 10 or 11 years, during seven of which he held the noncommissioned office of sergeant, and during all his long service and until about a month ago he was accounted a true and noble servant of the queen. For some time previous to four weeks ago he had been orderly room clerk of the Y. F. F.

For the past several months his daily associates had noted a marked change in Watson's disposition. From a jovial, light hearted companion he became a sullen and morose recluse, but never for a moment did he forget the imbued instincts of the gentleman, being at all times courteous and polite when addressed by any one. Something like a month ago Watson, to use a common expression, "went on a spree," which proved to be a prolonged one. He left his place at the barracks and devoted himself most assiduously to keeping up his drink. The fact that his money became exhausted in no way caused him to deviate from the mad course he was pursuing, for he issued checks here and there for small amounts, usually \$10, and the period of intoxication was thus elongated until, in a semi-rigid moment, the young man realized that he had not reported for 21 days, thereby entitling the writing of the word "Deserter" after his name on the army roll. This realization served to cause him to drink deeper of the dregs of despair and despond, also of Scotch whisky. Knowing that he was being searched for by his fellow soldiers as well as by the police, he managed by the exercise and cunning of a desperate man to conceal his whereabouts and escape detection. It is said, however, that he learned last night that his place of concealment, a cabin on the hillside, had been discovered and that today he would be taken into custody. But the foolish fellow, for whom the officers and men entertained only feelings of pity and compassion, chose to die in preference to facing the ordeal to which he imagined he would be subjected, with the result that at 7:45 o'clock this morning, at the place above mentioned, he fired the shot from the effects of which his life now hangs by a thread, while, he, in a state of great mental perturbation, tosses restlessly on a cot at the barracks hospital.

The young man, who has by his rashness probably terminated what might have been a useful and brilliant life, is a nephew of Viscount Castlemaine, of Creaduff House, Athlone, Ireland, and is himself in direct line of heirship to the title.

Scows in Demand.
Already the demands for scows is becoming quite active and those who own

such property stranded in the ice up the river will do well to look after them if they expect to use or sell them on the opening of navigation.

It is for the long journey down the Yukon towards Nome that scows are so much in demand; and as suitable material for their construction is not abundant here, it stands to reason that a scow which sold at Bennett last fall for \$800 has not decreased in value and is worth fully that amount or more in Dawson at the present time.

Some intending Nomads entertain the erroneous impression that for the reason that the cargos of scows stranded in the ice or on sand bars up the river have been hauled away, leaving the craft unanchored except by the ice that it has been deserted by the original owner and is, therefore, subject to "relocation" by the first man who chances to want it.

In the presence of a representative of the Nugget, Police Magistrate Major Perry was asked a few days ago as to the right of persons to go up the river and "jump" scows stranded in the ice. The official informed him that not until the river opens and scows are floating down entirely unmaned can they be taken, salvaged and become the property of other than their former owners.

Present indications are that there will be demand for every scow in the river between Moosehide and Whitehorse before the middle of the summer, as there are hundreds in Dawson waiting for the opening of navigation to start for Nome who do not intend to travel by steamer, but who will load their household goods and gods on scows and start to float over the long voyage to St. Michael.

Trails Are Becoming Difficult.
From persons who arrived from up the river last night it is learned that the trail in some places is becoming quite difficult of travel. On the river there are places where the water is running from four inches to a foot in depth; and on the cutoffs the snow has all gone from the sidehills facing southward, making it laborious to drag even empty sleds up the inclines. If the weather continues mild freighting on the river and over the cutoffs will not be possible after a very few days. Recent arrivals report hundreds behind them all coming with heavy loads of assorted merchandise.

Water Rights.
Allan R. Joy has applied for a ten years' grant of 150 inches of water, to be diverted from Bonanza creek at No. 30 below discovery, and to be used on the adjoining hillside and benches on the left limit.

Humboldt Gates and J. W. Cassidy have made application for the right to use, for ten years, 200 inches of water on creek claims Nos. 58 and 59 below on Sulphur. Said water is to be diverted from 59 pup, which enters Sulphur on the left limit at No. 59 below.

Demaux Beaudoin and Jeffrey Letebvre have applied for a three years' grant of 50 inches of water to be diverted from Last Chance creek at a point near the upper part of No. 5 from the mouth. Said water is to be used for mining purposes on said No. 5.

Gold Commissioner's Court.
J. L. Wilson has filed a protest suit against Ildo Ramsdell. The action involves the title to creek claim No. 4 on a tributary entering Last Chance at No. 8 above discovery. The complaint of the plaintiff, J. L. Wilson, reads as follows:

"The plaintiff is a free miner, residing at Dawson. The defendant also resides in Dawson. On June 1st, 1899, the plaintiff caused work to be started on creek placer claim No. 4 on a tributary at No. 8 above discovery on Last Chance for the purpose of representation. That men worked thereon continuously for three months, till September 1st, 1899. During that time one shaft was sunk 52 feet, and 16 cords of wood were cut. On March 23d, 1900, three men came to the office of the gold commissioner to file an affidavit of representation and renew the claim. Then plaintiff learned that Ildo Ramsdell, on November 18th, 1899, had filed an application for said claim, stating that no work had been done on claim during the year. That a grant had been issued on the 23d of January to said Ildo Ramsdell for said claim. The plaintiff claims that said claim was duly represented, and that the relocation grant heretofore issued to defendant should be cancelled, and a renewal grant issued to the plaintiff." The hearing of the action has been fixed for 10 o'clock a. m. on April 19th, 1900.

This morning the case of C. S. Yardwood vs. Clegg and Holcolm was tried by Commissioner Senkler. The suit involves a dispute regarding the boundary of the hillside claim, left limit, opposite the upper half of No. 7 Boulder creek. Decision was reserved.

The action of Cunningham vs. Anderson is being tried this afternoon.

Carbon paper for sale at the Nugget office.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT

To Commit Suicide Was Made This Morning By Captain William Thorburn.

HE SHOT HIMSELF IN THE HEAD

And Inflicted a Wound Which Will Prove Fatal.

HE BECAME DESPONDENT

Yesterday He Drank Immoderately and Lost Considerable Money Playing Roulette.

At noon today, the town station of the N. W. M. P. was notified that a man was lying fatally wounded in a small roughly furnished cabin, which is situated on the hillside in the northwestern section of the city. Upon investigation the unfortunate individual proved to be Captain William Thorburn, who has resided in this territory since the summer of 1897. When the officers arrived the injured man was stretched upon his bed, his head was resting on a pillow, which had been profusely stained with blood; he was dressed in his ordinary wearing apparel, even his coat had not been removed; on the floor, near the side of the bedstead, there was a .38-calibre revolver, one chamber of which contained an empty shell. The face of the wounded man was covered with blood, which emanated from a hole in his forehead directly over the left eye. From the aperture of the wound, a part of the brain protruded. The fingers of the left hand were powder marked. The horrible aspect of affairs clearly indicated that an attempt had been made to commit suicide; and the gravity of the injury will render the rash effort successful. Drs. Hepworth and Duncan bandaged the wound and the man was carried to St. Mary's hospital. At the time of the medical examination the unfortunate individual was in a semi-conscious condition, but he disclosed nothing relative to the matter.

Captain Thorburn is a native of Edinburgh, Scotland; he is unmarried, of average height, and aged about 38 years. During the winter he has been living in the cabin where the fatality occurred, in company with Harry Donville, the son of Col. James H. Donville. Mr. Donville is speaking of the affair said: "I left the captain last evening in the Bank saloon, since which time I had not seen him until this noon, and then he was unconscious. I did not sleep at the cabin last night. I know that the captain had been drinking rather heavily yesterday afternoon, and I understood that during the day he lost quite a sum of money while gambling at the roulette wheel. My opinion is that he became despondent, and attempted to end his troubles by committing suicide."

It is not known when the shot which inflicted the injury was fired. The blood stains on the pillow were perfectly dry at noon; and this circumstance leads the police to believe that the deed was perpetrated at an early hour this morning.

Captain Thorburn was well and favorably known in the territory. He has done considerable mining; but has been unsuccessful. He was upright and conscientious in all his dealings; and his present condition is a matter of excessive regret to his friends and acquaintances.

Claims Recorded.
Wilson Foster has received a grant for the Foster quartz claim, which is located on the right limit of the Klondike river, opposite the mouth of Bonanza creek.

James Bell has recorded the Bell Diamond quartz claim, located at the mouth of Adams creek. A quartz claim has been issued to Michael Day for the Gold Chest claim, which is situated at the mouth of Adams.

This morning two placer claims were recorded in the local office. The grants were issued by the department of Ottawa. J. Gordon McLaren filed on the fraction, designated as No. 464, above discovery on Sulphur. This fraction is 55.8 feet in length, numbered 42b below on Sulphur, was recorded by Edward B. Condon.

MATTER

War With

Chinese Empire Mount Eruption

Although dead at the first saloon Empress of these 26, a Japanese pig give a large get of Or been brought the dream may be cat Capt. Jev the flagsh way from scribes the pinos as p Aguinald. the revolutive witho tains.

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