

MILITARY RULE IN BLOEMFONTEIN.

Guards Brigade Sent to Join Gen. Gatacres' Force.

JOUBERT IN COMMAND AT BRANDFORD.

Ex-President Steyn Denounced as a Coward by His Confreeres.

The Surrender of and Entry into Bloemfontein—Good Work of the Troops—The People Were Glad When the British Arrived—Two Boer Commandoes Hold Van Reenen's Pass—Roberts Will Not Push Matters for a Few Days—Steyn Still Playing at President—Reitz Says Kruger's Famous Ultimatum Was a Peace Document—Leyds Now Looking to Holland for Help.

London, March 16.—Commandant Gen. Joubert is reported to have arrived at Brandford, about forty miles north of Bloemfontein, to assume command of the Boers, whose headquarters a.e., apparently, on the Modder River. The correspondent of the Daily News at Bloemfontein reports that the cutting of the track by Major Weston, who got behind the Boer lines, interrupted Gen. Joubert's intended advance southward on Tuesday, but there is no other indication that the Boers at present are acting except on the defensive. The supposition in Bloemfontein is that they will defend Brandford.

The correspondents send long stories of the British entry into the Free State capital. There seems to have been stormy scenes at the meeting of the Executive Council mentioned in the Bloemfontein de pitch. President Steyn presided. Mr. Fraser, the President's rival, was fully decided to surrender, and he denounced Mr. Steyn as a coward for lacking enough moral courage to accept the situation. The President remained unmoved.

The envoy that Gen. Roberts sent to demand the surrender of the town was a captured member of the Executive Council named Palmer. He, like John Steyn, the President's brother, was a willing volunteer. The scene of the formal handing over the keys of the public offices was the summit of a kopje such as the Boers know so well how to defend. Here Gen. Roberts awaited the Boers, his men, the muzzles of his guns pointing grimly towards the capital.

When the delegates had climbed the hill and met Gen. Roberts most respectfully, they received with gratification his assurance that the lives and property of the inhabitants would not be injured if there was no further opposition. The Boers were entirely free from any sense of humiliation. The delegates, though undemonstrative, seemed relieved that the anxiety ended.

The British found the wounded Boers in the town. Gen. Roberts asked if they had been removed because of the belief that the British did not treat the wounded. Mr. Fraser replied that the Boers did not like fish, so they did not wish to go to Cape Town. There is no scarcity of common food-stuffs in the capital, and the district is full of cattle. Forage, however, is not abundant.

The British found in the town most of their convoy which the Boers captured at the Modder River. They also secured the dynamite magazine, and much railroad plant and bridging material, and many prisoners. Numbers of burghers surrendered their arms.

Many had already fled for their homes, and many are taking to the east and north with their cattle and goods. Seven wounded British officers and sixty wounded men were found in the hospital. Included in the number were several members of the Suffolk Regiment. Business has been resumed, and all the barricades have been removed from the shops.

left in the mountains stretching beyond Leidsdorp, with its advance at present in the Biggarsburg north of Ladymanth. But no fighting of a serious nature is likely to take place in the Free State for the next few days, though, as Gen. Buller is said to be making some moves in Natal, there may be some on that side at any moment.

Will Hold Kruger Responsible. London, March 15.—In the House of Commons to-day 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 had been warned that he and his Government would be held personally responsible for any act contrary to the usages of civilized communities.

Not Taken Very Seriously. London, March 16.—Mr. Montague White's threat, in an American newspaper, that the Boers will sacrifice Johannesburg and the Free State, if the ground if necessary is not taken very seriously by Mr. Chamberlain's statement that President Kruger has already been warned as to the consequences of such conduct as Mr. White is said to have forehad. Mr. Reitz, the millionaire mine owner, says he does not believe the Boers would be so foolish.

Now Looks to Holland. London, March 16.—A despatch to the Morning Post from Brussels says that Dr. Leyds, the diplomatic agent of the Transvaal, has gone to Holland. He kept his departure from Pretoria secret, but it is believed that the object of his visit is to confer with M. de Beaufort, the Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs, who received last week a telegram from the Dutch Government, asking him to appeal in President Kruger's behalf for the intervention of Holland. The Cabinet discussed the question on Tuesday. Dr. Leyds is represented as saying that he did not expect any power to intervene.

Military Government Established. London, March 16.—Lord Roberts has allowed three divisions to halt at Bloemfontein, but he is not idle himself. He has created the impression that the Free State Government has been overthrown, and that a military government has been substituted for it. He has kept various municipal and State offices in operation under the general supervision of the military government, and by proclamation and practice is encouraging the people of the Free State to follow the example of their own authorities in the surrender of a hopeless struggle. He can well afford to halt for a fortnight in the capital and try his hand at the game of imperial politics. He has established thereby in inducing the Free State soldiers to desert their commandoes and return to their farms.

Ex-President Steyn Busy. London, March 16.—President Steyn himself since his arrival at Kroonstadt is issuing counter proclamations and striving to rally his troops to the defence of the republic, but unless all signs fall his forces are rapidly disappearing from the field. The old order of government has lost its political authority, and the new order, established by the British flag, is rapidly taking root. Apparently Lord Roberts' main work during the next fortnight will be to pacify the population, and to buy supplies for his army of 50,000 men, and he also has disciplinary work to do. With the gold and silver soldiers under rigorous discipline Lord Roberts is likely to prove a successful politician in Bloemfontein. It is evident from the press despatches that his first work will be to organize the railway system of the Orange River and the abandonment of the Kimberley.

London, March 16.—Lord Roberts' success in handling the civil problems at Bloemfontein, and the manifest equality with which he has treated the people of the capital of the Orange Free State, accept the British occupation as a military necessity, and here the commander-in-chief of the British forces in South Africa will soon push on to Pretoria, but Great Britain is quite content to listen for a few days to the acclamations of the people of Bloemfontein and permit the troops to enjoy a few days' rest before expecting further success. Lord Roberts made a quiet speech to the Guards at Bloemfontein to-day, when in his first congratulatory words he expressed pride in their splendid military situation. It is believed here that the commander-in-chief of the British forces in South Africa will soon push on to Pretoria, but Great Britain is quite content to listen for a few days to the acclamations of the people of Bloemfontein and permit the troops to enjoy a few days' rest before expecting further success.

London, March 16.—A despatch to the Daily Mail from Lorenzo Marques says that strong commandoes are massing at Warrenton, where the Free State Boers will make a stand. This seems to be an echo of the old story, but if it accurately represents the present situation, it suggests that the supposed Kimberley column moving to the relief of Mafeking is a long-expected move. It is believed here that the commander-in-chief of the British forces in South Africa will soon push on to Pretoria, but Great Britain is quite content to listen for a few days to the acclamations of the people of Bloemfontein and permit the troops to enjoy a few days' rest before expecting further success.

Boers Hold Van Reenen's Pass. Cape Town, March 15, 11.59 a.m.—Lieut. Grant, T. 104th, and Lieut. of the South African Horse, have made a successful reconnaissance of Van Reenen's pass, leading from Natal into the Orange Free State, where they succeeded in getting behind the Boer laager, and learned that the pass was occupied by two commandoes with two guns. They discovered many embankments for artillery.

Roberts' Next Move. By an English Military Veteran. From a military point of view Kroonstadt, the new Free State capital, seems to have been chosen with judgment, as it is a considerable distance from the north of the point where the next effective resistance to the British advance can be made, if the northern half of the Free State decides to continue in the war alongside the Transvaal.

Called Steyn a Coward. London, March 16.—The Daily

Queen at Windsor Castle, the Prince of Wales at Marlborough House, Lord Wolsey, and others, were immediately on the march at 9 o'clock. The War Office was deserted, the public having given up hope of further news until to-morrow (Thursday). The appearance of the newspapers with the tidings of the great event, excitement along Pall Mall, at the Service Clubs, and in the west end generally. Owing to the late hour, however, there were no demonstrations approaching in the remotest degree those which heralded the relief of Ladysmith.

It so happened that a torchlight procession organized on an extensive scale for the Widows' and Orphans' fund was parading South London with bands and banners. This included a body of uniformed men, representing the British field forces, the surrender of Cronjé and other inspiring incidents. The route was hung with flags, and stands were erected at numerous points for spectators. Naturally the appearance of the excellent edition of the evening papers created a force of enthusiasm among the paraders, who greeted the news with the singing of the National Anthem.

London, March 16.—As Lord Roberts was being congratulated by the deputation of officials which had gone out to meet him he was greeted by great crowds of people, cheering and waving handkerchiefs, and displaying the utmost enthusiasm and cordiality. Lord Roberts first entered the market square, thence proceeded to the residence of Lord Roberts, the band playing "God Save the Queen." Whoever Lord Roberts' despatch was read his reference to the "late" President Steyn, and the "late" Executive, was immediately fastened upon as highly significant.

The Lord Mayor announced the news at the banquet of the members of the Free State, which was in progress at the Mansion House. It was received with great enthusiasm, the company rising and singing "God Save the Queen." The evening papers in Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow published special editions, causing joyful demonstrations in those cities.

"The British flag now flies over the Presidency at Bloemfontein. Though the capture of the Free State capital had been foreseen since the surrender of Cronjé's force at Paardeberg, the news that it has actually occurred will send a thrill of satisfaction through the empire. Strategically important may be of no greater importance than the seizure of the capital at any other convenient point in the neighborhood would have been. In the moral and political effects must be considerable, and may be of the highest significance. The capital of one of the two allied republics is in our hands, and the Orange Free State ceases to exist as a political entity. Lord Roberts in now the ruler, de facto and de jure, in her Majesty's name, of Bloemfontein and a large part of the southern territories of the republic. The language of the despatch in which he announces his arrival at the Free State capital makes it clear that he has assumed the duty of a ruler, and as applied to Lord Roberts, like Prof. Westlake, sees that danger may lurk in ambiguous words, and is careful to make it clear that for him the word "sovereign" has ceased to be a fact. The surrender of the town was effected through the good offices of the late Government, and by several local officials. This is satisfactory, and shows that some of the prominent burghers, after as before the war, are by no means implacably opposed to our demands.

JOUBERT DIDN'T COME. Gen. Joubert was expected here early in the morning, but he did not blow up of the line north of the town. He is reported to have remained at Brandford with 2,000 men. Gen. Pretorius is succeeding admirably as Governor of the town. He issued a proclamation to-day requesting the burghers within a radius of ten miles to deliver up their arms, assuring them they would be paid for the confiscation of their property.

ROBERTS' FIRM HAND. Lord Roberts is about to issue fresh proclamations which it is believed will have the effect of clearing further opposition upon the part of the Free Staters. Mr. Collings has been appointed Lieutenant-General, and Mr. Fraser will act as Major. Great quantities of stores captured at Waterfall have been recovered. Lieut. Hunter's and Westlake's line cutting the river secured 26 engines and the line has been cleared to the Kaffir River. Burghers are current that former President Steyn is willing to surrender. Such unrest exists among the Dutch population. The burghers described the soldiers as locusts, saying they were numerous, bold and of identical color with them.

The Free Staters south of here are reported to be rapidly returning to their farms. General Grobelaar is attempting to escape to the north. He has a large command and a big convoy of supplies. The majority of the townpeople anticipate that the Free Staters will offer no further resistance.

Davis on His Way Home. Naples, March 16.—Mr. Webster Davis, United States Assistant Secretary of the Interior Department, has arrived here from Pretoria, on his way to America.

Rhodes Done With the Bund. Cape Town, March 16.—In an interview published in the Cape Argus Mr. Rhodes is quoted as saying: "I have no objection to our having peace in South Africa so long as we have in the republic a rallying force." Rhodes surprises the Boers Again. London, March 16.—General Roberts reports that he found seven British officers and forty-three men wounded in the hospital at Bloemfontein, and that they had been well cared for. He adds: "I rejoiced to be allowed to proceed to their homes instead of being made prisoners, as soon as they can leave the hospital."

Chasing Boer Agents. New York, March 16.—The Journal and Advertiser says to-day that despatches from Lorenzo Marques state that two Boer commissioners, Abraham Fisher and A. D. Wolmarans, sailed for Europe on the German steamer "Kaiser" and that the British man-of-war Titus started in pursuit. The interesting question is raised as to whether or not England would dare to chase the commissioners off the Kaiser.

proof shelters to resort to when the shelling is heavy. The latest triumph is a five-inch gun made by local workmen. Both shells and powder are made locally. Respecting the former, some taken from Jameson's column at Doornkop by the Boers were fired into town. They were collected, melted down, recast and used again, paying a visit to the Transvaal.

Surprised the Boers. Cape Town, March 15.—When the British forced the passage of the Orange river this morning, they surprised the Boers. The British troops occupied a position on the north side of the river with little opposition, and are now building a pontoon bridge.

One Canadian Wounded. London, March 16.—It was officially announced to-day that the British casualties at Defontein on March 15th were 62 men killed and 321 wounded, including 18 Canadians wounded. A later despatch corrects this, saying only one Canadian was wounded.

SIX SHORT STORIES. How Henry Clay Won Over a Waverling Partisan. When Henry Clay was stamping Kentucky for re-election, says the Argonaut, at one of his mass-meetings an old hunter of wide political influence said: "Well Harry, I've always been for you, but because of that vote (which he named) 'I'm goin' agin' you.' Let me see your rifle." "Is she a good rifle?" "Yes." "Did she ever miss fire?" "Well, yes, once." "Why don't you throw her away?" The old hunter thought a moment and then said: "Harry, I'll try you agin." And Harry was elected.

CHAMPION COCOON STORY. The Boston Transcript tells a story of a man who has a class of boys in a natural history. One of the boys which he took up was butterfly and moths, and he told the children a good deal about the chrysalides and cocoons. After he had got the boys well instructed, he showed one of the cocoons of one of the boys, and asked: "What butterfly is this the cocoon of?" Then the little boy looked up and said, slowly and respectfully: "My papa says that all cocoons look alike to him!"

THE CHILTERN HUNDREDS. The humors of examination papers are illustrated by Dr. Haig Brown, who, speaking at the Royal London College upon the responsibility which rested upon examiners in weighing fragments of knowledge, said that the question, "What are the Chiltern Hundreds?" once received the reply: "Small animals which abound in such great numbers in cheese." The inquiry, "What is a cherub?" elicited in its answer the answer: "An immoral being of uncertain shape."

NOT DOUBLE-FACED. The homeliest man in Congress is Eddy of Minnesota. He rather glories in the distinction of ugliness, especially as all his other characteristics are available. During his last campaign the enemies of Mr. Eddy charged him with being double-faced. He met the charge in a manner that disarmed all criticism. "Great heavens," said Mr. Eddy to his audience, "do you think that if I had two faces I would wear the one I am showing you now?"

SHAKESPEARE AND THE SCOT. Buckle attributes the great success of Scottish men of science to their preference for a priori or deductive argument. The following story of similar trend was attributed to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman: "Scotland was asserting that all the great poets were of his nation. 'Well, but,' said one, 'how about Shakespeare?' You can't say he was a Scot." To which the other replied: "His talents would justify the supposition."

ESKROVE AND THE MURDERER. In sentencing a prisoner to be hanged for the murder of a soldier, Lord Eskgrove dilated upon the crime as follows: "And not only did you murder him, but you were bereaved of his life, but you did not weep, or pierce, or project, or propel the lethal weapon through the bellyband of his regimental breeches, which were His Majesty's!"

The Normandy Barber. There is a proverb which insinuates that "travellers' tales" are always open to suspicion. Therefore, we do not vouch for this, reported by the Paris correspondent of the Pittsburg Despatch, on the authority of a friend who had just visited Normandy. He tells me that in a little village up there he was shaved once by a woman barber. To moisten the soap she spat on it, like a bootblack on his blacking.

Heavy snow fall bega in New York to-day and continued with great intensity. In the early morning it was accompanied by a heavy rain, which moderated during the day. The snow was piled up in places, and the streets were very slippery. The temperature was very low, and the wind was very strong. The snow was very white and very soft. The rain was very heavy and very cold. The wind was very strong and very noisy. The snow was very deep and very long. The rain was very much and very fast. The wind was very loud and very high.

THIS ORIGINAL DOCUMENT IS IN VERY POOR CONDITION