

SKILLFUL STRATEGY

Shown by the Matabeles Working Against Bulawayo—Acting Like Old Soldiers.

Every Day Adds to the Danger of the People of the Besieged City.

A Small Band of Hostile Natives Has Grown into a Great Besieging Army.

Cape Town, April 28.—The news of Saturday's events in Bulawayo show that the Matabeles are displaying great boldness and energy in the pursuit of their purpose to surround the town completely and cut off all communication with the outside world.

On Saturday morning it was found that the hostile forces of natives had surrounded the town on the north, east and west, the town being much too close to the river to allow of freedom of action in any direction.

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were killed—H. G. Whitehouse, O. Gordon, R. Parsons. The exact number of wounded is not stated.

The rapid firing was thought to have saved the day for the whites beyond question. The loss sustained in view of the forces of the attacking party and the fact that they were actually outnumbered, is considerably small, and the whites are considered lucky to have come off so well.

They retired on the conclusion of the fight, but they were in possession of the field when they did so.

Although the attacking party came off without very heavy losses, they did not drive the Matabeles, but simply repulsed their attacks. The hostile lines are practically as near to Bulawayo as ever, and it is certain that only a part of the Matabeles who are besieging Bulawayo were engaged in yesterday's fight.

It is not clear that the sortie has been effectual in preventing the advance of the Matabeles to the south of Bulawayo, which is the outcome most feared.

The uneasiness here regarding the situation in the hard pressed settlement is unabated, and about the only agreeable factor is that telegraphic communication with Bulawayo is still open. The administrator thus announces that the town still has provisions for twenty days. The supplies on their way from Mafeking are expected to arrive before that period expires.

But their arrival at all depends upon many contingencies. It is strongly held that the best speed of the relief train from Mafeking can make without hostile obstruction will not bring it to Bulawayo until it is urgently needed.

The administrator at Bulawayo is doing all in his power to increase his stock and guard against the contingency of delay of the relief train from Mafeking. He has ordered that all passenger traffic be stopped in order to enable the coaches from the south to be used for bringing in the available supply of meat.

It is also said an arrangement has been made with a friendly chief for further supplies, and these, it is hoped, will tide over the needs of the country until they are better provided for.

An official dispatch forwarded here from Mafeking says that up to the present time all is well within the column. Cape Town, April 28.—Those dispatches which filtered through from Bulawayo yesterday increased the feeling of anxiety felt here regarding the fate of the besieged town.

According to the latest advices the Matabeles have again been drawn closer to Bulawayo and at the same time extended to Matabele. When this news was sent out from the endangered town the besiegers had been further reinforced, while another large body of men was leaving Mafeking in order to effect a junction with the other bodies of hostile natives, and so completely surround the place from all sides, at the same time keeping south of the fortified pass which is the key to the situation in that direction.

In addition a further strong force of hostile natives has gone in the direction of the route followed by the relief corps. About six hundred men with nine Maxim guns are advancing from Mafeking. Consequently it is believed that there is severe work out for the advancing force, the advance guard of which, it was hoped, would be able to reach Mangoch by about May 7th.

The work of arming and fortifying in the Orange Free State, is going steadily on, and the slow but sure policy of President Kruger, said to be dictated from Berlin, is being pursued relentlessly night and day. The Boers already have a small army under arms, well supplied with rapid firing guns and ammunition.

In the vicinity of Lichtenburg, where it is reported a fortified camp is being constructed. This location is admirably situated for any strategic movement calculated to cut off the British in Matabeleland, Khamaland and Bechuanaland from any communication with Cape Colony, and this is a source of serious complications. The Boers would promptly occupy Mafeking from their camp near Lichtenburg, which is only a short distance from the present British base of operations, for relief of Bulawayo.

At present the relief of Bulawayo is the main point of interest. In the dispatches from Bulawayo yesterday evening it was said that the Dawson troop was starting for a fort situated six miles along the Taiti road, with the object of guarding the telegraph line and keeping the road clear for the relief corps on the way from King Khama's country by arrangement with the latter, who is particularly friendly to the British, having only recently returned from a visit to England, where he was treated with great distinction. Another dispatch from Bulawayo says that he, the coach, laden with arms and ammunition, reached Bulawayo yesterday from the south. Earl Grey, one of the administrators of the territory of the British South Africa Company, is expected to arrive at Bulawayo to-day with a strong escort of troopers.

It is now announced that Hekombi, one of Lobengula's leading chiefs, was among the killed during the fight about the Umbuzo river, which followed the second sortie by the British, when about five hundred natives were slain. Late last evening it was reported that there had been further severe fighting about Bulawayo and that the Matabeles had been defeated with great loss, but the belief is expressed that possibly the report was an echo of the recent fighting.

The tactics of the Matabeles are really admirable. When the uprising commenced, only a few hundred hos-

tilles were reported to be in the field, and it was always, and every day, the police would soon reduce them to subjection; but the police deserted with all the arms and ammunition they could lay their hands on. The impi gathered with wonderful rapidity in the Matoppe hills, when they evidently made their rallying point, and the clearing of Bulawayo was commenced. Impi after impi moved northward and circled about Bulawayo, where, seemingly directed by some skillful strategist, they took up positions in half circles about twelve miles from town. Steadily, slowly and surely the native regiments have been augmented, the half circles of hostiles increased until it became almost a complete circle, and instead of being twelve miles from Bulawayo, only about three miles now separate the natives from the object. Each camping ground fortifications are abandoned, but fresh ones have been promptly erected at the best position occupied, and thus the advance and concentration of the Matabeles can now be traced by a series of linear, rude entrenchments and breast-works, making a most effective ambulance under the circumstances. The band of a few hundred insurgents in the Matoppe hills reported in arms only about a month ago, has swelled until 10,000 men are operating against Bulawayo alone, and some thirty thousand hostiles are under arms, together with the number increasing daily.

Every hour draws the circle closer around Bulawayo, and every day adds to the confidence and number of the Matabeles, who, since the news of the humiliating defeat of Dr. Jameson's raiders by the Boers, who have spread and magnified it into a complete defeat of the British army by a handful of untrained farmers, seem to have supreme contempt for the British. This feeling has not been lessened by the fact that the three sorties made by the little garrison of Bulawayo resulted in little more than a crushing back of the latter, and the further advance of the Matabeles. The enemy has been kept plentifully and regularly supplied with cattle, and it is believed, with ammunition for all the rifles in the possession of the natives. The supplies were sent from the Matoppe hills, the Boers' headquarters. It is said that over 50,000 head of cattle have been gathered in by the hostiles from different directions, the hills themselves, it is said, being foraged by the insurgent forces holding them so that, should Bulawayo be relieved and the British be able to resume the offensive, the natives will have a stronghold to fall back upon, and there make a long stand against the Chartered Company's forces. If this is correct, and there seems no reason to doubt it, the British will not see the end of the Matabele war for many months to come, and much blood will be shed on both sides before order is finally restored. But the Matabeles may be able to hold out or harass the British until the latter's struggle commences in South Africa. No one can predict the eventual outcome. The Boers dream of a United States of South Africa, and they are bold enough to say that the realization of this dream is among the possibilities of the near future.

London, April 28.—The Mashonaland (South Africa) agency here has received the following dispatch from Bulawayo, dated April 27: "A big engagement took place this morning. Three impi surrounded us, but we defeated and routed them with great loss."

The text of President Kruger's reply to the invitation of the British government to visit England and discuss matters connected with the Transvaal and its future, is a voluminous document, and plainly indicates the firm attitude assumed by the Boer statesman.

The president begins by stating that his visit to England always depended upon settlement of the basis of discussion. He regrets that that basis has not been reached.

Continuing, he says: "In a friendly spirit but from the very first the government saw clearly, and recorded its opinion, that no foreign interference in the international affairs of the republic could be allowed." Mr. Chamberlain admits the justice of this position, and intimates that Great Britain desires that particular international measures be taken by the Transvaal. The latter cannot allow to pass unnoticed the expression of admitted grievances. And, however well meant, this government must express regret that, having intimated a desire for the reconsideration of the London convention in consequence of the inroad of Dr. Jameson, the position should be assumed that the discussion of the so-called "admitted grievances" must be included as a sine qua non in the event of a reconsideration of the convention being agreed to. The South African republic has always been prepared to receive and consider in a friendly spirit the private suggestions of the imperial government regarding the interests of British subjects, although the South African republic never admitted the existence of the so-called "admitted grievances," and must deny on that account that a right exists to create a rebellious movement. It does not assume to be perfect or infallible; it has repeatedly declared that it is prepared to listen to any just complaints presented in a constitutional manner by any man, but the South African republic is of opinion that every step calculated to prolong the irritation existing in South Africa must be studiously avoided by the exercise of mutual forbearance and good will.

"Half a span of angry steel" will produce no more fatal results than a neglected cold or cough. For all throat and lung diseases, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is the best remedy. It is invaluable in cases of croup, whooping cough, bronchitis, and all grippe.

Garden tools at cut prices at Shore's Hardware store, 57 Johnson street.

WILL YOU WALK IN?

Says Sir Charles to Chapleau and Meredith, Who Politely Answer "No, Sir."

Hugh John Macdonald the Only New Man Who Walked into the Web, So far.

Several Millions of Sockeye Fry for the Skeena River This Coming Season

Ottawa, April 28.—Sir Charles Tupper commenced this morning to form a new government. He has so far succeeded in getting only one new man, Hugh John Macdonald, to join the administration. The train on which Hugh John is coming here met with an accident at Nepegon, and it is twelve hours late, so that Mr. Macdonald will not get here until to-morrow morning. Chief Justice Meredith will not come in, nor will Mr. Chapleau.

Steps have already been taken in connection with the operations on Skeena river. Inspector McNabb has received his instructions, and the prospects are that several millions of sockeye fry will be planted in the Skeena river this year. Senator David McKeen, who resigned his seat in Cape Breton in favor of Sir Charles Tupper, has resigned his position as manager of the Dominion Coal company. His salary was \$15,000.

M. MELINE'S NEW MINISTRY Will Have Some Trouble With the Radicals and Socialists.

Paris, April 28.—It is stated that the new cabinet will be announced in the chamber of deputies at the close of to-day's session. The general expectation is that the cabinet will meet with vigorous opposition on the part of the Radicals and Socialists. The latter have already declared pitiless war upon the Meline ministry, the formation of which, they assert, is unconstitutional and contrary to parliamentary usage. They promise a resolution on Thursday aimed at President Faure. "However, friends of M. Meline say that he will not be deterred by this prospect. It appears certain that, with M. Day close at hand, the chamber will not care to overturn the government, which incidentally is not yet guilty of political wrong. The newspapers, however, all regard the dissolution of parliament as inevitable."

THE DISTINGUISHED CRIMINAL. Trial of Dr. Jameson and Associates Still Attracts Attention.

London, April 28.—The trial of Dr. Jameson and his associates was to-day, when the court was crowded, among those present being Ladies Foley, Mohr, Chesterfield and Sheppard, and Mrs. Bayard, wife of United States Ambassador Bayard.

The secretary of state for the colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, announced to-day in the house of commons that five of the leaders of the reform committee of Johannesburg, J. Hammond, Francis Rose, Geo. Farrar, Lionel Phillips, and Chase Leonard, had been condemned to death.

A VERY HANDSOME DEFICIT. Uncle Sam's Treasury Will Lack \$25,000,000 on June 30th to Even Up.

Washington City, April 28.—The treasury deficit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, will be approximately \$25,000,000. This is the opinion of officials best qualified to make an intelligent estimate of the result of the fiscal operations of the year. In his annual estimate sent to congress at the beginning of the present session, the secretary of the treasury estimated the receipts from the customs during the fiscal year at \$172,000,000. So far, with hardly ten months of the year gone, the customs receipts have reached about \$157,000,000, with a fair prospect of increasing to about \$165,000,000 at the close of the year. The estimate of the receipts from internal revenue sources was \$158,000,000. Up to this time they have reached \$120,000,000 and it is expected the figures for the completed year will be about \$146,000,000. The receipts from miscellaneous sources are expected to slightly exceed the estimates of \$15,000,000, making the total receipts for the year about \$327,000,000.

The secretary's estimate for the year's expenditures was \$362,000,000, which according to his figures, would leave a deficiency of \$17,000,000. The actual expenditures, however, it is now thought, will aggregate about \$332,000,000, or \$10,000,000 less than Mr. Carlisle's estimate in December last, so the deficit at the close of the year, it is believed, will not show any material change from Saturday's figures, \$25,000,000. This makes the total deficit for three fiscal years ending June 30, 1896, \$48,000,000.

The secretary's estimates at the time they were made were believed by those

of long experience in the department to be extremely conservative. The receipts from both customs and internal revenue sources, however, have been surprisingly low, and there does not seem to be any immediate prospect of material improvement.

A GOOD EVENING'S WORK. Two Tennessee Murderers Lynched by a Vigilance Committee.

Nashville, Tenn., April 28.—At midnight on Sunday night a mob of armed men, about fifteen in number, entered the jail at McMinnville, dragged the jailer from his bed and forced him to give up the keys. William and Victor Hollis were then taken from the jail, carried on horseback five miles from McMinnville and hanged. Before the mob succeeded in removing their victims from the jail they had a hard fight with them, but the prisoners were overpowered. The mob came from Van Buren county, where the lynched men lived.

The prisoners murdered in 1894, in Van Buren county, Carl Martin at his home, the purpose being robbery. The trials in the lower courts and one in the supreme court have been held, and the cases were sent for trial next week again. The prisoners have been in jail at McMinnville for safe keeping, and no attempt at lynching was expected.

ACCIDENT ON THE C. P. R. A Train Runs Into a Washout and the Engineer is Killed.

Port Arthur, April 27.—The C. P. R. express going east from Port Arthur this morning ran into a washout east of Nepegon. The engineer, Dan McNeill, was killed. He leaves a wife and five children. He was one of the oldest passenger engineers on the division.

WILL WOOD WAS WICKED. He Wrote Bad Letters to the Murderer of Pearl Bryan.

Newport, Ky., April 28.—It has been the policy of the prosecution to bring out the bloody garments of Pearl Bryan every day since the trial began. The effect on the jury was unquestioned, and the defence will have much to combat when their side of the case is presented. Late yesterday afternoon the defence brought Will Wood on the stand to interrogate him about two vile letters written by him to Scott Jackson on February 1st and 3rd. Here it was that the women were required to retire. The letters are too coarse and indecent to be printed, but the point of the greatest importance as bearing on the case in Will Wood's letter to Jackson was in that dated at Plymouth, Ind., February 1st, in which were the following sentences: "Dad, if you have let the chance go by, I'll give you a shot also; if you have grown chicken-hearted, you ought to be shot." The rest of the letter is made up of impenetrable and personal allusions, intelligible to the writer and Jackson, but riddles to all others. Will Wood was detected in the defence an opportunity to offer this testimony.

A CHINESE GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY. To be Built from Peking to Hankow—Railway Stocks.

Peking, April 28.—An imperial edict authorizes the building of a railroad from Peking to Hankow. This is to be a grand trunk line, and the emperor says that the distance is great and the cost immense he grants the privileges of constructing it upon in its provinces. The project will show a capital of at least 10,000,000 taels. Government officials are ordered not to interfere with the plans or losses of the company and the promoters are promised assistance of imperial favor if they are successful. The edict is addressed not only to people of the capital, the provinces and other dependencies of the empire, but to "four people laboring in other lands."

London, April 28.—The upward movement of copper has been suddenly checked by the announcement of Sir Michael Hicks Beach, secretary of the treasury, that the government has suspended purchases for the sinking fund, owing to the high prices of copper, and although it is difficult to see what alternative course is open to the government, it is probable the uncertainty created will prevent further rise in mining markets are still inactive, owing to the dubious aspect of African affairs, but all other markets advanced on the week. American bonds continue to be bought, but although an energetic market is being made by professional operators to cause a rise in the shares, the general public cannot be tempted to speculate, and rumors of the stoppage of the Venezuelan negotiations have had a disturbing effect. Central and Union Pacific closed firm on reports that congress would take no action on their debts.

The week's advances are: Illinois Central, 3; Northern Pacific, 2-5/8; Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and Lake Shore, 2; New York Central, 1-3/4; Louisville & Nashville, Denver preferred and Reading firsts, 1-1/4; Atchafalpa mortgage and Canadian Pacific, 1; others fractional.

THEY CAN'T HAVE WHISKY. United States Behring Sea Patrol Fleet Must Drink Water.

Port Townsend, Wn., April 29.—Instructions came from the treasury department this afternoon ordering the commanders of the revenue cutters of the Behring sea patrol fleet not to take aboard any spirituous liquors. The fleet was ready to sail when the orders were issued and the mess officers were compelled to land their private liquor supplies. The captains themselves, while in the north must live like prohibitionists, and although they will not be allowed on board the mildest of intoxicating beverages. The order caused a wave of disappointment throughout the fleet, but none of the officers expressed their desire of resigning, although they thought the department's instructions. The belief is expressed here that the order emanated from the scandal and general charges of drunkenness unearthed in the Healey case at San Francisco last autumn, when one-third of the officers on duty in Behring sea were accused of intemperance.

The patrol fleet, consisting of the Bear, Corwin, Rush Perry, Wolcott and Grant, will sail to-morrow at noon for Unalaska and Behring sea via Sitka. In July they will go into the Arctic circle to look after the whaling fleet.

TUPPER HAS HARD LUCK

In Forming His Cabinet—He is Still Bargaining to Get Mr. Chapleau Into It.

But That Astute Politician Will Exact Perhaps Too High a Price.

Sir Mackenzie Thinks Twice—School Question Proposition from Winnipeg.

Ottawa, April 29.—Sir Charles Tupper is having no easy time in forming a government. So far he has not made any success. He is making all kinds of offers to Mr. Chapleau, but it is said that the latter will take nothing less than the premiership. In addition to this he must have the department of railways and canals, and may demand that Mr. Haggart be turned out of the government. Hon. Mr. Daly's friends are very angry at Haggart and Montague for having turned him out. It may be the end of the week before the cabinet is constructed. Hugh John Macdonald will not get here until to-morrow.

The retiring premier, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, had intended issuing a valedictory in the shape of a manifesto to the Canadian people, but on further consideration he decided not to do so. A. H. O'Brien, of Toronto, a nephew of Col. O'Brien, has been appointed assistant law clerk of the house of commons.

Hon. E. G. Prior, as acting minister of marine, has wired Capt. Gaudin to have the bodies of the shipwrecked Janet Cowan's captain and sailors brought from where they were buried and interred in the cemetery with proper religious ceremonies.

The electric railway to the experimental farm will be in operation on Saturday. The Governor General and Countess of Aberdeen will entertain the local railway men and their wives at a garden party at Government House on Saturday. Mr. Fletcher, secretary of the experimental farm, has been created honorary LL.D. of Queen's for services to science. It is reported that Mr. Jones, ex-M.P. for Gaspe, will be appointed agent of the marine department at Quebec.

Winnipeg, April 29.—The Tribune says there is a feeling in the Brandon constituency that Attorney General Stratton ought to resign for the occasion and run against Hon. T. M. Daly, in order to bring out a full test of the feeling of the people on remedial legislation. It is believed that the Patrons would agree on Mr. Stratton, and that the majority by which he would be carried would show how much the remedial bill is detested.

Lieut.-Colonel Tisdale is expected to-morrow, having been sent for by Sir Charles Tupper.

Cable News. Nice, April 29.—The Queen and Princess Beatrice left here for Cherbourg to-day on their way to England.

CANADIAN CREE INDIANS. Active Steps to be Taken for Their Removal from Montana.

Washington, April 29.—The senate committee of foreign relations to-day took favorable action upon Senator Carter's proposed amendment to the general deficiency bill providing appropriation for the removal of the Cree Indians from Montana. The amendment provides that the Indians be removed from the Canadian border and delivered to the Canadian authorities. The Canadian authorities have agreed twice to accept the refugees and that the offer might not be made a third time.

AYER'S Hair VIGOR. Restores natural color to the hair, and also prevents it falling out. Mrs. H. W. Farwick, of Digby, N. S., says: "A little more than two years ago my hair began to turn gray and fall out. After the use of Ayer's Hair Vigor my hair was restored to its original color and ceased falling out. An occasional application has since kept the hair in good condition."—Mrs. H. F. FENWICK, Digby, N. S.

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