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TWICE-A-WEEK.

Victoria Times.

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VOL. 13.

VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1896.

NO 11

MATABELES ARE MASSING

And Things Look Serious for Settlers in South Africa Just at Present.

Chief Danger Arises From a Lack of Arms and Ammunition—Natives Well Supplied.

The Weapons Smuggled out for the Transvaal Raid are Sadly Needed Now.

London, March 31.—The secretary of state for colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, read a dispatch from the governor of Cape Colony, Sir Hercules Robinson, in the house of commons to-day. The message, which is dated yesterday, announced that the Matabeles are massing in Matopo Hills. He added that communication with the south was endangered. There was a month's supply of provisions at Bulawayo, but there was a lack of arms there with which to supply volunteers. Sir Hercules Robinson also said the natives were well supplied with guns.

Cape Town, March 31.—It is difficult to obtain accurate information regarding the progress of the rebellion of the natives of Matabeleland. The authorities here are withholding all information possible, as there is no doubt it would be made use of by the enemies of British rule in South Africa. It is not denied, however, the situation becomes darker every day and that a very strong force of men will be necessary to restore order. This cannot be done unless much bloodshed. Additional advice received here from Bulawayo show the work of placing the town in a state of defence has been completed as far as the means at hand will permit. But there is a lack of arms and ammunition with which to supply the many settlers who have gathered there from the outlying districts since the uprising commenced. The Matabele have rifles, but they are of all kinds and makes and the stock is small. Consequently it has been found desirable to replace these rifles as far as possible with the Martini-Enfield rifles, served out to the police, the stock of ammunition for the latter being fairly adequate. But the stock of the Martini-Enfield rifles available is small now.

It is an open secret that nearly every rifle procurable was gathered up and smuggled into the Transvaal previous to the Jameson raid. The authorities here are now feeling the effects of this policy of weakening the defence in different parts of British South Africa in order to make the lamentable display in the Transvaal. Until arms and a supply of ammunition arrive from England, the British are helpless, and the combined uprising on the part of the Boers and natives who could be bribed into hostility might be very disastrous. Offensive operations against the Matabeles are almost at a standstill. Communication south of Bulawayo is practically cut off. Parties of settlers who left their clearings and lagged out at the first signs of alarm, are still unrelieved. There seems to be no immediate prospect of assistance being sent. Some, therefore, are becoming despondent. The Matabeles, Selous and Napier at Bulawayo have done everything possible under the circumstances and as a result of good scouting work they are keeping "close in the air," that is to say, they are doing their utmost to conceal the weakness of the position of the British, who anxiously awaiting supplies of arms and ammunition necessary, but these supplies are not secure at such short notice. Thousands of stands of arms which were believed to be at the disposal of the British Chartered Company's officials, seem mysteriously to have disappeared and few people doubt they are now in the hands of the Boers. This time must elapse before arms and ammunition can reach here from England, and in the meanwhile the situation must necessarily grow more grave.

The agent of the Chartered Company has been authorized to raise an additional force of five hundred men, but the men are available, arms, ammunition and horses are wanting. The whole country outside of a radius of 12 miles around Bulawayo is in a state of open insurrection and the Matabeles and other natives are flocking to Matopo Hills, where the son of the late King Lobengula is said to have been raised to his father's rank with great ceremony, preparatory to taking command of the army of natives flocking from all parts. The vicinity of Bulawayo is kept clear of rebels by white scouts, but it is believed the natives are being kept in full information of all that is going on and nobody doubts the root of the trouble is at Pretoria and Berlin, which are kept well informed regarding the progress of the uprising. Advice from the Transvaal show that the work of preparing for war is being continued there night and day. Gangs of men relieve each other at intervals in the work upon the forts designed to protect Pretoria, the plateaus for which have been furnished by the Krupp Works and the guns by the Krupp firm of Germany. Drilling artillerymen under German officers goes

on openly every day. There is no longer any concealment in the preparations being made. A foreign legion, composed almost entirely of Germans, who have recently entered the Transvaal, has been organized, and this force will be mostly infantry and artillery, the Boers being relied upon to furnish all the cavalry necessary. The general opinion expressed here is that the company's officials and the British home government greatly underestimate the serious state of affairs which prevails here. This seems to be especially the case with the British government and would seem that the latter must be intentionally or unintentionally misled by the Chartered Company's officials or by others. In this connection it is reported Sir Hercules Robinson, governor of Cape Colony, seeing the approach of the cloud, was desirous of resigning before the storm broke, and there are other officials, who rumor has it, would like to do the same. In short, British prestige in South Africa has been rudely shaken, and the shaking, under encouragement from Germany, is still going on and most energetic steps will likely be necessary to enable Great Britain to maintain the status quo which prevailed before the Jameson raid. It leaked out to-day that the officials of the British Chartered Company are even more alarmed than the current report has it. It is understood representations have just been made to Sir Hercules Robinson regarding the extreme gravity of the situation and requesting that he ask for immediate reinforcements of regular troops from Great Britain or India. He is said to have assured the representative of the company that the home government may be counted upon to meet any emergency and additional regular troops may shortly be expected at Cape Town.

London, March 31.—It is reported that the British Chartered South African company is seriously alarmed at the events which are taking place in South Africa, and has made strong representations on the subject to the British government, showing it is absolutely necessary that a large force should be immediately dispatched to the relief of Bulawayo and pointing out the difficulties that have arisen in the way of the company being able to do so at present. The company was authorized to raise an additional force of 500 men to South Africa, and further it is reported that two additional battalions of British regular troops will be immediately sent to South Africa.

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THINGS ARE TROPICAL

For the Spanish Army and Commander-in-Chief in the Vicinity of Havana.

Rebels Under Maceo, Maso and Lacrete Overruling the Entire Country.

Promise of Severe Fighting Before Long—Duke of Veraguas Views.

Key West, Fla., March 31.—(Lat from Havana, March 28, to avoid press censorship.)—Twenty-five thousand insurgents, under General Maceo, are swarming over the provinces of Havana and Pinar del Rio, destroying property, tipping up railways and tearing down telegraph lines. Forty-five thousand Spanish soldiers are in the same territory and more are coming. General Maceo is in immediate command of the entire column of rebels, with 9,000 men. General Maso is in the southern part of Havana with about 6,000, and Gen. Lacrete is hovering about the outskirts of Havana with about 6,000 cavalry. The insurgents are well equipped and have plenty of ammunition and are capable of giving the soldiers a warm reception. The activity noticeable about the palace of Gen. Weyler seems to bear out the idea that a crisis is near at hand.

New York, March 31.—A special to the World from Madrid says: The minister of war, Gen. Azcarra, has prepared the budget of his department for the next fiscal year with a view to increasing the regular army in Spain from 80,000 to 100,000 to enable him to keep 50,000 troops ready to embark for Cuba next autumn. The minister of the colonies, Senor Castellanos, still hopes to prevail upon the autocrat leaders in Cuba to accept terms from the coming spring. But officers from that colony show extreme reluctance among the autonomists to take part in the elections. They declare that elections in the present state of affairs on the island must be a farce. Premier Canovas has publicly stated that the Cuban situation is in a most peculiar position. Those who are of the most consequence, both politically and socially, are men of reputation at the court and at the bar, and can no longer count on the votes of the people who formerly elected them, because they are considered the greater number of these men are in insurgent ranks. The autonomist leaders, rather than be elected to the cortes by their Cuban parties, prefer to withdraw from the political field, as their prestige would be impaired by election under such conditions. Premier Canovas has also declared that the Cuban reformist party received its finishing blow when its chief, Count Moriera, died. He thinks its radical members will join the autonomists and renounce their party.

Much importance is attached by politicians and military men and by the press to these declarations by the prime minister. Several Liberal and Republican journals are commenting on the fact when it is an open secret that the union constitutional party does not really represent 20 per cent of the inhabitants of Cuba.

A special to the Herald from Madrid says: The Duke of Veraguas, the lineal descendant of Columbus, who visited the United States during the Columbian celebration, in an interview with the Herald correspondent, said that it was his earnest hope that the trouble between the United States and Spain over Cuba would die a natural death.

"Spain," he said, "has had great provocation for the expression of resentment against the United States. I am grieved to say that the action of congress seems to have been the insult of the century. I cannot understand how it happened. The only explanation I can find is that the American people and senate misunderstood the motives and conduct of the war in Cuba.

"It is easy enough to excuse the populace in America for showing a hostile attitude towards Spain. They do not stop to think, and they have no correct information as to the real condition of affairs in Cuba. The senate, however, should be less excitable. The gentlemen who compose it are presumed to have information on any international affair they discuss, and I see no excuse for their hasty action.

"Whatever the outcome, I trust that the idea of justice to Spain will prevail. Even though war should come between Spain and the United States, and even were it possible that, as a result, the Spanish nation should be wiped off the face of the earth, still the name of Spain would never be forgotten, but would go down through history revered and respected as long as there is such a place as America with the benign shadow of Columbus on it. I do not believe that the American senators had forgotten in the excitement of the moment what their nation owes to Spain.

"It is unjust to think that malefactors and half civilized forces, led by Maceo should be considered in the same light as the Spanish troops. The Spanish soldiers sent to Cuba are disciplined, and, as a rule, educated men. To suppress the insurrection, vigorous method must be used.

"I do not see how it can possibly be objected to under existing circumstances. It is simply a case of civilized warfare against guerrilla conflict. There is no doubt in my mind that the Spanish body politic of the day is much more humane and merciful than it was twenty-five years ago. Since the last revolution, the Spanish government has adopted laws as liberal as those that exist anywhere.

"If the war were soon and with dignity brought to an end in Cuba, or if there had been no war, Cuba would have a home rule government that would be entirely satisfactory to the majority of Cubans. Of course, a home rule government cannot be granted to a mob of insurgents. Spain will never allow interference in her domestic affairs. Even should not the old countries which have interests close to those of Spain come into this quarrel, Spain would still resist any interference to the last drop of the blood of her subjects and to the last cent of her money."

The Duke being asked what, from his standpoint would be a graceful and appropriate way for the President of the United States to get out of the difficulty, replied:

"Don't sign it and let it die out. I don't conceive that congress will force him into any premature action."

THE NEW HAWAIIAN CABLE.

Terms and Conditions Said to Have Been Concluded.

San Francisco, Cal., March 30.—Inquiry regarding the terms upon which the American company will be permitted to land its cable on the Hawaiian Islands reveals the fact that such terms were embodied in an act passed by the Hawaiian legislature last August. Upon application of Col. Z. T. Spaulding, the Hawaiian legislature offered to let him land a cable on any of the Hawaiian Islands and in addition to give him a subsidy of \$40,000 a year, provided he would obtain an equal subsidy from the United States government. Other minor conditions mentioned in the act being a condition that a certain number of government messages, which should be transmitted without cost. Under the terms by which the United States government obtained the use of Pearl Harbor as a coaling station it is said that the United States has a right to land a cable at that point.

MINISTERIAL CRISIS

Further Trouble in the Orghinally Unsettled French Government.

Pending Resignation of the London Ambassador Through Internal Dissensions.

Paris, March 31.—Le Matin says the resignation of Baron de Courcel, French ambassador at London, is merely postponed until the approaching debate in the chamber of deputies. According to Le Matin, the ambassador's retirement is due to serious disagreements with the premier, M. Bourgeois, now as minister of foreign affairs, as to the foreign policy of the French government.

Toulon, March 31.—There are signs at the Lockyard and arsenal of preparations for grave events. Special and additional orders have been received to prepare a number of warships for active service, stores and ammunition are being overhauled and sent on board warships to be prepared for commission. All naval officers on furlough have been telegraphed to rejoin their ships immediately. These measures are believed to be more of a precautionary nature than indicating the probability of an outbreak of hostilities. The French Mediterranean squadron is to be strengthened and the second class cruiser Ocelite, 5700 tons, has sailed on a special mission to the African coast.

Cairo, March 31.—A dispatch from Sankim says that Osman Digna and a large force of Dervishes are threatening Sankim.

HAMMOND IS RELEASED.

But Other Prisoners Are Still Under Guard at Pretoria.

London, March 31.—The Times published a dispatch from Pretoria to-day, which says that John Hayes Hammond, the American under trial there, has obtained leave to go to Cape Town on account of his health, but his bail has been increased to £20,000.

"The other reform prisoners," says the dispatch, "are under guard here. The British government has intimated that it will hold President Kruger and the executive responsible for their safety." A dispatch from Cape Town, also to the Times, further announces that Mr. Hammond has arrived there.

A Cape Town dispatch to the Times says: "Hon. Cecil Rhodes, in the course of a speech delivered at Umtali, said he appreciated the difficulties that settlers had to face, but he knew that things would come right in twenty-five years. The company, in times past, he said, being pressed for money, had granted concessions, but no more would be granted. He did not think his residence in Rhodesia would be a temporary one."

COWARDLY COERCION.

More Dishonorable Than Firing on an Enemy During an Armistice in War.

Tories, Knowing the Futility of the Commission, Resorting to Brute Force.

Poor Old Sir Mackenzie Bowell to Be Shortly Shuffled Away in London.

Ottawa, April 1.—The house of commons yesterday went into committee of the whole on the remedial bill, with Deputy Speaker Bergeron in the chair. Mr. Davies began a discussion on the advisability of proceeding with the measure while negotiations were in progress at Winnipeg. He said it was like an enemy firing during an armistice. The Liberals wanted the question settled amicably and at once, as they desired that the next election be fought out on the trade issue. Sir Charles Tupper said that owing to the short time before the expiry of this parliament, no time could be lost in the consideration of the bill, which it was necessary to pass in the event of the failure of the negotiations at Winnipeg.

Mr. Davies was continuing to discuss the policy of the government, but was declared out of order, and Mr. McNeill moved that the committee rise and report progress.

A general discussion ensued on the expediency of the government's course. Mr. Foster contended that the course of the government was reasonable and consistent. He said that the bill could be passed in ten days if the opposition would not unduly obstruct the proceedings. Mr. Mills held that this parliament could only act as a court of last resort, and the government proved that the house was not such a court by sending commissioners to Winnipeg. He held that the action of the government throughout was unwise and contrary to public opinion.

Sir Richard Cartwright also denounced the government's course as impetuous and exceedingly improper in view of the negotiations in progress. He asked Sir Charles Tupper if he hoped that the commissioners would be successful. Sir Charles replied that he feared they might not be, and admitted that, privately, he had little hope of the success of the commission. He said that the government had received word from Winnipeg that the commissioners and Manitoba's representatives are too far apart to reach a satisfactory compromise.

The night session of the house, until three this morning, was occupied in talking against time. Only two clauses were passed.

It is said that after the session Sir Mackenzie Bowell will go to England on the cable conference and remain there as high commissioner. Sir Chas. Tupper will take charge of the campaign as premier, assisted by Mr. Chapleau in Quebec and Hugh John Macdonald in Manitoba, and perhaps, Mr. Meredith in Ontario.

Ottawa, April 1.—At the public accounts committee to-day Mr. Martin contended to know how \$1537 travelling expenses was expended by Mr. Foster. The latter could not give any explanation.

Ottawa, April 1.—In the house to-day Mr. Mara asked for some information regarding the navigation of the Columbia river and the Duncan and Lardner rivers in Kootenay, to which Mr. Oulmont made a non-committal answer. Mr. Martin expressed pleasure at seeing Mr. Mara taking a little interest in the affairs of the province, even although it was late in the session.

Winnipeg, April 1.—Although the commissioners will not say so, the conference is ended, and no settlement has been reached. Hon. Mr. Dickey told your correspondent last night that they would leave for Ottawa to-day. Sir Donald gave a grand farewell dinner last night to half a hundred friends. A dispatch from Ottawa says that Sir Charles Tupper practically admits that the negotiations were fruitless.

ANOTHER TRAIN HELD UP.

Masked Robbers in Missouri Make a Raise in the Usual Way.

Lebanon, Mo., April 1.—The east-bound cannon-ball train, No. 6, on the St. Louis & Frisco railway, was held up three miles east of this city at 10.5 this morning by three masked men and the safe blown open and robbed. The robbers boarded the train at this place

RECEIPT OF ADDRESSES, FLORAL TRIBUTES AND MANY PRESENTS.

Princess Bismarck was Eighty-one Years Old to-day. In Honor of his Birthday Bands of Music Played in Schloss Park all Morning. Count Herbert Bismarck Arrived at Freidrichshagen yesterday Evening but his Brother, Count William, was Absent on Account of ill-health. Representatives of the "Hamburg" Senate bearing Congratulations of that Body and several Friends Arrived here During the Day and waited upon Prince Bismarck. He also received many floral tributes and presents and a large number of telegrams including one from Prince Henry of Prussia. The weather was fine and cool. Crowds of people assembled about the gates, but up to the time this dispatch was sent Prince Bismarck had not appeared in public. Emperor William's present to Prince Bismarck was a photograph of the imperial family in a group enclosed in a handsome frame.

HON. EDWARD BLAKE'S ILLNESS

Not Nearly So Serious As At First Reported.

London, April 1.—Inquiries made to-day by the Associated Press regarding the reported serious illness of Hon. Edward Blake elicited the response that these reports are much exaggerated and that the weakness displayed in the house of commons last night was not of grave consequence, as he is subject to such attacks. To-day Mr. Blake is reported resting easily.

TO SAVE BRAINLESS PEOPLE.

Mrs. Gilmore's Anti-Cigarette Association Getting Down to Work.

Chicago, April 1.—Mrs. M. E. D. Gilmore, organizer of the anti-cigarette association, and other members of the association, visited the Thomas Hoyme school yesterday to inaugurate the anti-cigarette crusade in the public schools. Two hundred pupils of the school joined the anti-cigarette association, girls and boys alike pledging themselves to abandon cigarette smoking and to use all just means in their power to prevail on others to do the same.

American News.

Ithaca, N. Y., March 31.—The name of James H. Vickery, of Halifax, N. S., is one of the lucky six given out by the faculty of Cornell law school as entitled to compete in the annual prize debate of the senior class to be held in commencement week, next June. The prizes are \$30 and \$20.

Cable News.

Woodstock, England, March 31.—The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, the latter nee Vanderbilt, arrived at Blenheim palace to-day, having returned from their honeymoon journey. Extensive preparations had been made for their reception, and their welcome from the townspeople was marked by demonstrations of great enthusiasm.

Constantinople, March 31.—Harper's Weekly, of New York, has been permanently prohibited from entering Turkey.

at 12:50 a.m., and, after reaching the scene of the robbery, held up the engineer and fireman, stopped the train, and with the engineer in front of them marched to the express car. The messenger refused to open up and the door was blown open with dynamite, the safe cracked and its contents removed. Several packages of valuable papers were found this morning beside the track. Some money which had been overlooked in the hurry of the departure was also found. The passengers were not molested. The engine was detached and run by the robbers to Sleeper, where it was abandoned. A brakeman hurried back to the city and started Sheriff Jones and a posse on the track of the robbers. While the amount secured by the robbers is known to be considerable, local express officials will not place an estimate on it.

BISMARCK'S BIRTHDAY.

Recipient of Addresses, Floral Tributes and Many Presents.

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FIVE SERIOUSLY INJURED.

In a Train Wreck in Pennsylvania this Morning.

Trenton, Pa., April 1.—The Butler express on the West Pennsylvania road was wrecked near Greentown this morning and five persons were seriously injured. G. E. McKelvi, Butler, Pa., is internally hurt and will probably die. The accident was caused by the rails spreading. The two rear coaches jumped the track and went over an embankment. Fire broke out almost immediately and the passengers narrowly escaped with their lives.

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DISEASED LUNGS

CURED BY TAKING

AYER'S Cherry Pectoral.

"I contracted a severe cold, which settled on my lungs, and I did what is often done in such cases, neglected it. I then consulted a doctor, who found, on examining me, that the upper part of the left lung was badly affected. The medicines he gave me did not seem to do any good, and I determined to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. After taking a few doses my trouble was relieved, and before I had finished the bottle I was cured."

—A. LEXLAN, watchmaker, Orangeville, Ont.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

Highest Awards at World's Fairs.

Ayer's Pills Cure Indigestion.

CARNIVAL.

Two Days' Celebration.

May 24th and 25th will be the days of Her Majesty's regatta at the lake. The chief attraction of this year is known as "The Regatta." There will be a bicycle race, a foot race, a polo match, but the \$1000 prize will only be drawn on Tuesday and Wednesday.

At the meeting, when these details were appointed, Mr. Williams accepted the nomination, which will be met on Tuesday sub-committee.

Mr. St. Clair is spent for advertising sports for boys, with approval, it is at the main object for to come to the

MINET CHANGE.

Ministry—M. Berthelot is Portfolio.

M. Berthelot, minister, has resigned on his family arrangements has succeeded foreign minister, minister of finance, take the portfolio of the interior, previous to go.

Falling out and turns of the skin need of food, and the best is Hall's Hair

ect" bicycle before Shore's Hardware

YOUR

To-Date

In Soap as well in everything else. Sliced Soaps and olding wash-dishes are not up-to-date people.

Unlight Soap

their homes clean, full with very little use this world-needs

GREATER COMFORT

For every 12 Sunlight wrappers, sent to Lever Bros. Ltd., Toronto, a useful paper-bound book cloth-bound for 50 wrappers.

Sunlight" Wrapper sent Head Office, 100 Scott Street, Toronto, will give paper-bound book, oria, Agent for B. C.

STAR G POWDER

MAND IN CANADA

Money

periments with other powders, when

me a DEMONSTRATION.

Medal Awarded, 1895.

TE STAR G POWDER

WHOLESOME

Notice.

given that 30 days after make application to the owner of Lands and Water, ment of a public highway, meeting at southern boundary of Range 1 west, Salt Spring Range, west of Lot 12, southerly through Lots 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160,