

### MAKING STILL SILENT

#### Nothing Heard From One Spot John Bull is Watching.

Pretoria Story of Gatare's Defeat Seemingly at Pretoria—Report That the Women at Pretoria Are Murderously Frantic—Another Story That Kruger and Steyn Are Not Affectionate—Irish Members Precipitate a Lively Time in the House of Commons.

London, March 23.—Again there is a persistent rumor that Mafeking has been relieved. It is even asserted that the war office has received a dispatch positively announcing the relief, but that publication of it is withheld because the form of the message admits the possibility of mistake. The war office, however, declares that there is no confirmation of the rumor and that no further news on the subject is at hand. No attention is paid in any quarter to the wild Boer rumors of General Gatare, which are only designed to revive the drooping spirits of the burghers.

Marking's Only Chance.—It seems that Mafeking's only chance lies in relief by the column supposed to be advancing from the south or in the possibility that Colonel Baden-Powell is still strong enough to attempt a sortie with a view of capturing the Boer guns at a time when Commandant Snyman has withdrawn his men to oppose Colonel Plummer's advance. All the reports regarding the British position are, however, State unimpaired most satisfactory. Nothing has developed regarding General Buller's intentions.

Boer Women Reported Frantic.—It is reported from Lourenco Marques that Pretoria is prepared to stand a siege of two years, and that the Boer women, frantic at the reverses to the Boer army, are entreating to be allowed to shoot the British officers imprisoned at Pretoria.

Stories of Kruger and Steyn.—A special correspondent of The Times at Bloemfontein, telegraphing Thursday, says: "Yesterday Mr. Kruger issued a proclamation annexing the Free State to the Transvaal. Mr. Steyn immediately issued a counter proclamation declaring the Free State intact."

The Daily News has the following from Bloemfontein dated Wednesday: "It is rumored that Mr. Kruger and Mr. Steyn will meet at Kromstadt, in the Orange Free State, on April 4, to discuss the proposed annexation. The feeling between the Transvaal and the Free State is very bitter."

Gatare Heard From.—A dispatch to The Daily News from Springfield, dated March 21, says: "General Gatare and his staff are still here. He is most strict regarding the private property of the Boers. Some knights who had looted farms have been tried and severely punished. To the great satisfaction and gratification of the Boer residents."

### HAD A HOWLING GOOD TIME.

House of Commons Indulges in a Little Bit of Fun.—The discussion of the financial relations between Ireland and Great Britain was set down for yesterday and John Redmond, the Irish leader, seized the opportunity as favorable. Therefore he appealed to the promoters of the London water bill to postpone its second reading for a couple of days, so that the Irish question might be more fully discussed. The promoters agreed, but the speaker pointed out that the orders of the day provided for the discussion of the London bill first, and that he was bound to see the orders obeyed. Irish interruptions followed to such an extent that the speaker threatened to treat them as disorderly.

The Irish members appealed to the president of the House to postpone the debate. Chaplin declared he saw no objection at first, but after the attitude assumed by the Irish members, the position of affairs had been entirely altered. They had endeavored, he declared, by threats to coerce the house, and to yield would be the worst kind of precedent. Further attempts to speak were howled, and the disturbance grew worse each moment, when Balfour opportunely entered.

Amidst loud Irish cheers John Redmond appealed to Balfour to postpone the latter agreed to a postponement, which was adopted after further noisy and disorderly discussion. A. O'Connor, Irish Nationalist, opened the debate on the extension of Ireland, which he declared, from the date of the union to 1890 exceeded the war indemnity paid by France to Germany. He moved that the government steps be rejected this state of affairs. This was voted 220 to 102.

Tied Up by the Chicago Strike.—Houghton, Mich., March 23.—More than \$500,000 worth of new mining and milling machinery, which is badly needed here, is being held up by the machinists' strike in Chicago. It is expected that the machinery orders for Lake Superior copper mines aggregating nearly \$5,000,000 will be affected, and a long continued strike would greatly hurt both mines and miners here.

Debts Spoken at Joliet.—Joliet, Ills., March 23.—Eugene V. Debs, candidate of the socialists for president, spoke in Joliet on "Labor and Liberty" to the largest labor meeting ever held here. The men were packed and many stood during a two hours' talk.

Caught on the Fly, as It Were.—St. Paul, Minn., March 23.—Another big colony of settlers from Kansas, Missouri and Iowa passed through here en route to Larimore, Minot and other points in North Dakota. They brought about 150 cars of freight, and there were 1,000 souls. An extra passenger was added at 5:30 a. m. on the train. It was a boy.

Well-Known Illinois Citizen Dying.—Springfield, Ills., March 23.—Judge Samuel P. Cummings, well-known Democratic politician, jurist and Knight Templar, is dying at his home in Astoria, Fulton county, Ills., at the age of 82.

Town Is to Own Its Plant.—Saginaw, Mich., March 23.—The common council has laid over for one week the recommendation of a committee to establish the municipal electric light plant in the rear of the city hall property.

### CARNEGIE AND FRICK AGREE.

#### Great Suit Is Off and a New Combination Is Decided Upon.

Pittsburg, March 23.—The differences between H. C. Frick and Andrew Carnegie have been settled. This announcement was made officially by the Carnegie Steel company, limited, late yesterday afternoon. The parties interested have agreed upon a plan of reorganization, the new concern to be incorporated under the laws of New Jersey. The effect of the proposed reorganization will be to terminate all equity proceedings now pending.

The stocks and bonds of the new corporation are to be taken by the present owners themselves, and not offered to the public as once contemplated. Schwab will continue as the executive head of the new company.

Pittsburg, March 23.—It is learned from one in close touch with the Carnegie company that the new organization will be capitalized at \$350,000,000. This cannot be definitely confirmed at this hour, but the authority is considered reliable. The same gentleman says Mr. Frick will remain in the new company in the same relative position he held just previous to the bringing of his suit.

### TAX TITLES OF NO VALUE.

Lapse of a Judge Said to Have Invalidated Attorneys' Title.—Local attorneys with an account unit in confirming the surprising statement that not a single tax title acquired in Mason county during the past five years is worth a dollar. There is no doubt that the statement is true. The reason assigned for the extraordinary condition of affairs is said to be the failure of the circuit judge to hold court the required number of consecutive days during which objections to the proposed sale of lands advertised for delinquent taxes might be made.

The oversight of this technical requirement is said to be not alone in effect upon Mason and other counties of this circuit, but the same error has occurred in several of the judicial circuits of northern Michigan. The matter has been kept very quiet, but lawyers and tax title holders are well aware of the condition of things.

Fatal Explosion of Collodion.—Philadelphia, March 23.—One person was killed and four seriously injured by a terrific explosion of collodion in the photographic supply establishment of Thomas M. McCollin & Co., on South Eleventh street, yesterday. The dead is Herman Weiss. The injured are: George W. Nichols, August Hanser, Daniel Reed, a fireman, and John A. Granton. The building was almost entirely wrecked and the adjoining structures, occupied by J. C. & Sons, manufacturers of hotel ranges and kitchen supplies, was also badly damaged by the force of the explosion.

Looks Like a Murder.—Rhinelander, Wis., March 23.—J. A. Orcutt, a well-known old trapper in this section, was found dead at his home at the edge of town, where he lived alone. He was shot through the head. Orcutt was supposed to be quite wealthy, and had a large amount of money on his person at the time. Forty dollars and valuable papers was all that was found. The key to the front door, which was locked, is missing, which leads to the belief that he may have been murdered.

Queen Visits the Wounded.—London, March 23.—The queen, accompanied by Princess Christian and attended by a large suite, visited Her Majesty's hospital at the result of the soldiers who are being cared for there. Immense crowds awaited the arrival of her majesty at the station in Woolwich, and lined the route to the hospital. The queen distributed quantities of Windsor flowers in the wards of the hospital.

Don't Get Any Assets.—St. Paul, Minn., March 23.—Reinelder E. Wekman, an immigration agent, has filed a petition in bankruptcy. The liabilities are \$51,620.58. There are no assets, except of the principal creditors is A. H. Brink, of Holland, Mich., who holds a large number of notes given by Fames in part payment for Fanning's mills sold by partition. The notes were made as far back as 1888, and are claimed to be outlawed.

Remains of Colonel Wallace.—Helena, Mont., March 23.—The remains of the late Colonel R. B. Wallace of the Thirty-seventh infantry have arrived from Fort Hancock, Ariz., where he died last Friday as a result of wounds received in the Philippines. The body will lie in state at the Auditorium Saturday and be buried with military honors on Sunday. Indications are for the largest funeral in the history of the state.

As to the Weekly Payment Law.—Indianapolis, March 23.—Smiley Chambers, counsel for the Republic Steel trust in the suits brought by the state to compel the payment of wages weekly, has made the first statement in the case. He says that the trust will take in the litigation. He says that the fight will be made on the ground that the law discriminates and that therefore it is unconstitutional.

Set Fire to the Mine Gas.—Vincennes, Ind., March 23.—As the thirty miners employed in the Prospect Hill coal mine were about to quit work, one of their number, Thomas Dant, stepped into an abandoned room, and causing an explosion. Several miners were seriously burned, and one is reported as fatally injured.

Gen. Wheeler Calls on Root.—Washington, March 23.—General Wheeler called at the war department yesterday morning, and officially reported his return from the Philippines to Secretary Root in accordance with the orders of the department. General Wheeler's resignation from the volunteer army will be held in abeyance and the question as to General Wheeler's eligibility to a seat in congress will be held in abeyance until the settlement of his military status.

Lost Part of His Lip.—Madison, Wis., March 23.—Ex-Gov. Taylor of Cottage Grove, was operated upon for cancer Tuesday. The cancer was on the lower lip and an inch of flesh was removed. The patient was under chloroform influence for over an hour. In spite of his 80 years of age, the operation was wonderfully well. Taylor was governor for the term of 1874-76.

Counting Chickens by Anticipation.—Bloemfontein, March 23.—Lord Roberts, while inspecting the naval brigade on the plain outside the town, addressed the men, thanking them for the excellent work they had done. He wished good luck to those who were about to rejoin ship and expressed the hope that the others would be present at the entry into Pretoria.

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Witness in the Court of Appeals Calls Them Badges of Servitude.—Washington, March 23.—A. F. Gill was the chief witness before the Court of Appeals yesterday. He testified in response to inquiries by Lutz the witness told of a visit to the "bull pen." At that time a prisoner chained to his fingers through a hole in the wall of the prison, told the witness said, a colored soldier who was on guard on the outside, shoved his bayonet at the protruding fingers, inflicting a bloody wound.

### CONTINUES A PUZZLER

#### What Will Be Done in Regard to Porto Rico.

Men in Favor of Free Trade, However, Seem Unyielding and to Hold the Balance of Power—House Practically Kills the Lard Bill Relating to Second-Class Mail Matter—Secretary Root Explains the License to Dredge for Gold at Cape Nome, Alaska.

Washington, March 23.—The Republican peace committee of the senate met after the adjournment of the senate yesterday and practically ratified the offer of Foraker in the senate to separate the Porto Rico tariff bill from the senate governmental bill and to take a vote on the house measure. The peace committee is willing that a vote should be taken upon the house bill as it was passed by that body, provided it becomes apparent that it is impolitic to attempt to amend it; but an effort will be made to ascertain whether the house will consent to any modification of the bill. The Republican senators think the bill should be so changed as to provide for the continued exemption from duty of the articles which were exempted by the president's order. They also find the house bill deficient in that it fails to provide any means of collecting the duty which it imposes.

Will Confer with the House.—There will be a conference with members of the ways and means committee of the house to discuss the bill. It is not impossible to secure its acceptance by the house on a conference report. On this account there may be no effort to modify the bill.

Positions of Free Trade Senators.—The members of the peace committee who favor the bill will express the opinion that most of the Republican free traders will offer their amendments to the house bill and then in case they are voted down will support the bill. It is a stronger determination now than ever before to resist the bill as it came from the house. It is claimed that the eight senators who will not support it unless amended. These are said to be Davis and Nelson, of Minnesota, Wellington of Maryland, Hoar, Mason, Beveridge, Proctor and Simon of Oregon.

Lard Bill Killed for the Session.—After a spirited discussion extending over three days, the Lard bill relating to second class mail matters was rejected by the house yesterday. The majority is in favor of the motion to recommit was so decisive that it is regarded as unlikely that the measure will appear again during the present congress. Lard said after the vote was announced that this was the last day and the motion was 148 to 96, with sixteen present and not voting.

Secretary Root Admits That They Were Granted, and Explains.—Washington, March 23.—Secretary Root made a brief statement to the press at the war department yesterday in regard to the action of the department in granting licenses to prospectors to dredge the waters front of Cape Nome, Alaska, in their search for gold. He admitted that one or two such licenses had been issued, but to whom he did not remember. He said that the regular routine of the department. There were about a dozen more applications of the kind on file, and they will all be granted. The secretary explained that his authority in the matter was based upon the statutes giving the war department jurisdiction over the navigable waters of the United States.

Under the law no one could have done any dredging on the water front of Cape Nome within a three-mile limit without the authority of the war department. This authority, the secretary said, had been granted in several instances, after it was shown that the dredging of sand would not interfere with navigation or the riparian rights of owners of adjacent territory. The particular character of the sand to be dredged did not enter into the consideration of the case at all. The secretary said, further, that any one was privileged to dig for gold in the open sea.

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### CAUGHT IN THE VERY ACT.

#### Young Man Whose Character Was Supposed to Be Right.

Spring Valley, Wis., March 23.—Ira C. Holt, who has been one of the most respected young men in town, a member of the Congregational church, head officer in four or five lodges, confidential bookkeeper in the North Wisconsin Land company's office, was Tuesday night caught in the act of robbing the safe of Tauberg Bros., trunk and lumber dealers. He formerly worked for Tauberg Bros. and at that time made a key, and knowing the combination, it is charged, has once or twice a week for the past year robbed them of small sums, the total being about \$1,000.

Tuesday night, after acting as usher in the church, Holt went to the office, which he entered, and was caught in the act of robbing the safe. He is in jail at Ellsworth. He is not yet 21, and has spent nearly all the money, though as he does not drink, smoke, gamble or go in fastos it is a mystery where it went.

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### EXPECTS A COLLAPSE

#### Correspondent Says Negotiations Are Going On.

Kruger, However, Says the Fight Will Be Desperate—Two Boer Agents Said to Have Gone to Russia and Carried with Them All the Transvaal Secret Arch. German Editor Writes a Remarkable Article About the Boer War.

London, March 23.—Several telegrams have passed between President Kruger and the British government, in addition to the Salisbury-Kruger correspondence already published. The foreign office received a dispatch from Pretoria yesterday. The contents of these communications cannot be obtained.

London, March 22.—The Cape Town correspondent of The Daily Mail, telegraphing March 20, says: "I have just arrived from Bloemfontein, where I learned that no further movement is probable for three weeks, as negotiations are proceeding. I failed to ascertain the nature of the negotiations, or whether Sir Alfred Milner's departure from Cape Town is connected with them. I should not be surprised if the war collapsed quickly."

A dispatch to The Daily Mail from Pretoria, dated March 19, says: "President Kruger returned from Kromstadt yesterday. He says the fight in the Free State will be desperate. I am informed that the Transvaal government has taken no resolution to destroy mines or property as a last resort."

Recommendations Threat of Reprisals.—Dr. Kruger, in a dispatch from Pietermaritzburg, says: "I think it may be counted certain that the Transvaal would immediately comply if Great Britain were to demand equally strict treatment for all prisoners by a threat of reprisals on Transvaal prisoners."

Boers Bury Soft-Nosed Bullets.—Ladysmith, March 22.—It has been ascertained that the accidental removal of soft-nosed Boer bullets after the fight at Pieters Hill, Feb. 28, revealed thousands of split and soft-nosed bullets. Princess Christian's hospital train arrived yesterday morning. It was the first train over the new Colenso bridge. The railroad is now open to Elandsbaag, where a camp has been established. Drakenberg and Biggarsdorp are closely watched by the British cavalry.

Berlin Calls Them Remarkable—Rather Commendatory of John Bull.—Berlin, March 22.—The Kreuz Zeitung, in a remarkable article dealing with the South African war, says: "The world has demonstrated the manly quality of feeling among the English. They are all standing together through good and evil report and are compelling the admiration of the world. It has also shown in a most amazing way the strength of the imperialist idea, having done much in welding the colonies into a veritable empire." The article, however, disapproves the plan of Lord Roberts to treat the Boers as rebels, and censures Itardy Kipling for encouraging the British to deal with them still more harshly, despite the fact that England never fought a more gallant foe.

It concludes with the declaration that Cecil Rhodes, after his arrival in London, will decide the fate of the Boers. The question of damages for destruction of property by German vessels in South African waters is still pending between England and Germany. The precise amounts to be awarded to each vessel have not yet been decided, excepting in the case of the Hans Wagner, whose owners will receive 150,000 marks, but the negotiations are being carried on in the best spirit by both sides and will soon come to a satisfactory end.

Basuto Soldiers Rejoice.—Maseru, Basutoland, March 21.—Everybody in Basutoland rejoices in the restoration of telegraphic communication with Allwal North. The proclamation of Lord Roberts is apparently effective, as the Free Staters are surrendering to the Basutoland forces. The occupation of Taba Nchu and Rouxville by the British has produced an excellent impression, convincing the Basutos that the authority of the queen is paramount.

Iowans Emigrating to Dakota.—Jamestown, N. D., March 21.—A special train from Northern Pacific, in two sections, brought in 300 settlers from Iowa bound for McLean county and points on the Jamestown and Northern. All have money and will begin farming with all the horses and machinery necessary. They have been renting high priced land in Iowa and have bought land from the Northern Pacific. Thirty more cars from Iowa will arrive tomorrow.

Rockefeller's Promise to Wellesley.—Wellesley, Mass., March 21.—President Charles Hazard at the close of the chapel service at Wellesley college yesterday announced that John D. Rockefeller had promised to give Wellesley \$100,000 when the college debt should be raised. The debt is about \$86,000. By efforts of the alumnae during the last two years, more than \$60,000 has been raised, or pledged toward the indebtedness.

A. W. Atwood sells household drops.

### TURKISH FIGHTER IS DEAD.

#### Osman Pasha, Who Gave the Russians Trouble at Plevna.

New York, March 22.—A dispatch from Constantinople announces the death of Osman Pasha, the hero of the greatest Turkish soldier of recent times. He was 68 years old. His defense of Plevna against an overwhelming Russian force in 1878 gave Osman enormous prestige. By the trenches he caused to be thrown up he arrested for four months the advance of the Russians, who after losing 4,000 men, starved the Turks out by a regular investment.

Osman Pasha was born at Taget, in Asia Minor, in 1822. When the Sultan learned of his death he exclaimed: "Allah is unmerciful. He has deprived me of my honest, true friend, and most valiant supporter."

INDEPENDENT TELEPHONES.—Agree to Operate 1,800 Miles of Line Under a Single System.—Waynauwega, Wis., March 22.—At a meeting of independent telephone companies held here yesterday it was decided to organize a state association and operate all the toll lines under one system. At the meeting 1,800 miles of toll line and 5,200 subscribers were represented.

The following sixteen companies are in the association: Rock County Telephone company, Barron County Telephone company, Jefferson Telephone company, LaCrosse Telephone company, Portage Telephone company, Wood County Telephone company, Marshall Telephone company, Wolf River Telephone company, Eau Claire Telephone company, Elkhart Telephone company, Union Telephone company, Little Wolf River Telephone company. The association is a combination against the American company in the state.

WORK OF A GATTAWO.—Rescues a Man and His Six Children from a Horrible Death.—New York, March 22.—Six lives were saved by the gallant work of a young colored man during a fire in West One Hundred and Thirty-fourth street yesterday. The man's name is M. S. Anderson. He detected the fire while on his way to work. The flames had gained considerable headway, and in a window a young child was seen to be in a most amazing way the strength of the imperialist idea, having done much in welding the colonies into a veritable empire." The article, however, disapproves the plan of Lord Roberts to treat the Boers as rebels, and censures Itardy Kipling for encouraging the British to deal with them still more harshly, despite the fact that England never fought a more gallant foe.

It concludes with the declaration that Cecil Rhodes, after his arrival in London, will decide the fate of the Boers. The question of damages for destruction of property by German vessels in South African waters is still pending between England and Germany. The precise amounts to be awarded to each vessel have not yet been decided, excepting in the case of the Hans Wagner,