

BOERS WILL FIGHT ON

Spirit of the Sturdy Men of the Republic Remains Unchanged.

OFFICIAL ADDRESS FROM PRETORIA

Surrender of Cronje Will Not Discourage Them in Their Defense.

KRUGER SAYS GOD IS TESTING BURGHERS

He Brings Tears to the Eyes of Bloemfontein People by a Speech.

BOERS GAINING GROUND AT MAFEKING

All but One of the Outside Forts Are Taken by Them—Orderly Retirement of Forces from Natal.

PRETORIA, March 8.—Secretary of State Keiz was issued a war bulletin in which, after saying the government has no official tidings of the surrender of General Cronje, but must accept it as a fact, however painful, added: "The government remains assured that the surrender will not discourage the burghers in their defense of their independence and standing as a nation. The struggle thus far has shown the republics have vindicated themselves as independent people. This revenue will not stagger us. In the struggle for our cherished rights our belief remains that, whatever happens, the Lord still reigns. "Owing to the invasion of the Free State by a large force of the enemy and other circumstances, it becomes necessary to take up other positions, hence the burghers in Natal have returned to Bizaberg. All the commands have reached there safely, except a few which retired in the direction of Van Rensburg's pass. Thus, Ladysmith and Kimberley are no more besieged. "In retiring the enemy was time after time driven back, so that our lagers were not cut off. In these fights a few men were killed or wounded and the enemy lost heavily. "In spite of all reports the spirit of the fighting men was to the outcome remains unchanged. Among the burghers in Natal the burghers are full of courage. "General De Wet now commands all the commands at the Modder river. "It is understood that President Kruger's visit to Bloemfontein was to try to arrange a compromise between the Transvaals and the Free States."

Kruger's Speech Brings Tears. A special dispatch from Bloemfontein says that President Kruger, addressing a crowd of people Monday, said: "Although God is testing our people, my personal opinion is that the limit of the test is nearly reached. It is the will of God that, if fighting is proceeding at Mafeking. All the outside forts except one have been taken by the Boers. "Much satisfaction is expressed in all circles at the courtesies extended to General Cronje by the British. PRETORIA, March 8.—(Via Lourenco Marques, March 8.)—It is officially stated here that on Sunday last there were heavy fighting at Dordrecht, that the British were repulsed with great loss and that the federals captured three cannon.

MAFEKING IS IN SORE STRAITS

Garrison on the Verge of Starvation, but Determined to Hold Out.

MAFEKING, Feb. 19.—What may be typhoid malaria has broken out in the women's laager, and dysentery, due to the absence of vegetables, is rife among the garrison. We are thrown upon our own resources. Such luxuries as we have are exhausted or have been commandeered for the hospital, which are filled to overflowing. The children's graveyard, close to the women's laager, grows weekly as the young lives are cut short prematurely by shell and fever. We long with home letters for relief. It is cheerfulness which was characteristic of the early days of the siege, has almost deserted us, the men preferring to remain at their posts rather than move about and work up an appetite which cannot be satisfied. The natives are in the severest plight. Those who are unable to obtain work are allowed a small handful of meal daily. Many, braving the danger, wander about the town with gaunt and hungry faces in search of work, which entitles them to an extra ration of meal. If they find work they are generally too weak to perform it. From their advanced posts the Boers rake the streets and the market square. It is impossible to dodge their bullets. We have taken remarkable precaution, however, and the casualties, though heavy, are not what they might have been had less able men been at the head of affairs. Even the headquarters' mess boys, sadly, like salutes under the altar, we say: "How long, oh Lord, how long!" Two hundred and fifty-two persons have been killed, wounded or died of disease. The garrison is so small that it would be criminal to make its weakness public, but there is never so much as a whisper. If any one suggested the possibility of surrender it is because we do not mean to get beaten and we are cheerfully enduring the hardships of today rather than to make a surrender in any degree possible tomorrow.

IN GRAVE NEED OF HELP.

LONDON, March 8.—The morning criticism comment on the discouraging news from Mafeking. Colonel Baden-Powell seems to be in grave need of outside help. Otherwise he would not allow the correspondents to send out information respecting the distress of the garrison.

White Thinks Canadians.

OTTAWA, Ont., March 8.—General Sir George White has called the governor general and secretary of the war office in London.

LADYSMITH, March 7.—I thank you excellently and, through you, Canada for congratulations in name of self and Ladysmith garrison. GENERAL WHITE.

Report on American Sentiment.

LONDON, March 8.—The Times publishes a letter from Moreton Prewen, dated Washington, who writes on American sentiment

with respect to the South African war. Prewen says: "I have heard, both inside and outside of congress, amazing tales as to the course of the war. I have found the desks of United States senators congested with pamphlets from the Boer standpoint."

He says: "The American judgment is being given by a general default by England."

KRUGER TRIES TO STOP THEM

Report from Poplar Grove that the Boer President Failed to Prevent Their Retreat.

POPLAR GROVE, Thursday, March 8.—President Kruger, who at present is far in the rear, yesterday tried to stop the retreating Boers, who refused to stay. The Bloemfontein police tried to stop the retreat of the Free States, but they declared that they were not willing to fight any longer and they blamed President Steyn. The Russian and Dutch military attaches arrived at the British camp yesterday.

OSPFONTAIN, Wednesday, March 8.—Lord Roberts' movement today again thoroughly surprised, outwitted and outmaneuvered the Boers, who fled almost without firing a shot. The plan of battle was as follows: The central division extended along the north bank, General Tucker held the center reserve and the Guards brigade held the center advance. General Kelly-Kenny's division was ordered to make a huge flanking movement on the Boers' left, following General French, who was instructed to flank and then to swing round the Boer flank and then to swing round the Boer flank and then to swing round the Boer flank.

Every movement was promptly executed and entirely successful. The Boers were surprised, as was evident from the state of the deserted camps. Twice the British cavalry was almost in a position to charge, but they were held back by the Boers.

When last seen General French was pursuing the enemy vigorously. He was between them and Bloemfontein, about eleven miles from the right wing.

General Gollive merely demonstrated against a high mountain occupied by the Transvaal troops, which were now fleeing in consequence of the flight of the Free States south of the river. "It is impossible at present to give the Boer numbers, but it is confident they reach 14,000, all of whom are now in flight."

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CHEERS FOR QUEEN VICTORIA

London Turns Out En Masse to Greet Aged Sovereign.

RAGS AND TITLES LINE UP TOGETHER

Most Enthusiastic Demonstration Since the Jubilee—Queen is Gaily Pleased by Reception.

LONDON, March 8.—Queen Victoria and the people of London today celebrated the victoria which they believe have transformed the campaign in South Africa from one of reverse into one of success. That is the only explanation of the unparalled enthusiasm of the hundreds of thousands who hailed their sovereign. In many ways these demonstrations outdo those of the jubilee, though there were no glittering pageants, no procession of princes, but only a dozen life guards, followed by a little, old lady in the plainest black costume who had come for a few days' stay at Buckingham palace, as she has done many a time before. Yet her hold on the hearts of her people was probably never more kindly manifested.

Unlike that of the diamond jubilee, today's outburst was almost impromptu. The depth of feeling which the demonstrations represented could only be gauged by those who mingled with the crowd. Mothers in deep mourning for some killed on the far-off veldt; straggled brass bands with melodious tunes; a glimpse of the queen, whose womanly sympathy and thoughtfulness for the soldiers had touched their hearts.

Of the long, cold vigils were rendered faint by tears that dimmed the eyes and blurred the vision, as the royal carriage passed. As one very old woman said: "I've seen her many a time, but I must say she was sorer for my boy, and I must see her again before I die."

Thousands here, the raw east wind and stood for hours patiently who have often seen the queen, and who in ordinary circumstances would scarcely budge to watch her pass. Among these were many personal friends of the sovereign, for instance, the countess of Brecon, a great friend of the queen, and a favorite at court, who stood on the curb favoring for hours with the crowd outside Buckingham palace.

An Outlet for Jubilation.

In short it was not so much a desire to see the monarch as it was an overwhelming need of an outlet for jubilation over the war and a natural inclination to let the queen see and share the gladness of her people that prompted London spontaneously to make today one of the most memorable celebrations of Victoria's reign.

It was quite different from the mad rejoicings that marked the relief of Ladysmith. Joyfulness was conspicuous here, although the crowds reached such proportions that the number of police would have been quite inadequate had the people been obnoxious.

Moreover, intermingled with the rejoicings of patriotism there was a particularly keen appreciation of the queen's personality, her womanliness, her great age. This little touch of reverence for her sex rather than for the monarch as it was an overwhelming need of an outlet for jubilation over the war and a natural inclination to let the queen see and share the gladness of her people that prompted London spontaneously to make today one of the most memorable celebrations of Victoria's reign.

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in the air, a mighty cheer arose and slowly there passed a car with a canopy on the back of which sat a black figure, heavily veiled and nodding right and left. Suddenly, for the first time in the day, the sun came out from behind the clouds and shone over the shouting thousands, and, plucking its veil, showed its happy countenance lighting up the aged monarch's face. It was a repetition of the scene of the jubilee—queen's weather in the truest sense of the word.

Still nodding vigorously, her majesty came out of sight into the quadrangle. There the peers and commoners assembled sang "God Save the Queen," and her majesty entered the palace.

Outside there was pandemonium. Over the roadway, which had been kept clear for the carriages, the crowds swarmed until it was impossible for those near the railing to move an inch. Somebody started singing "God Save the Queen" and half a mile or more of people took up the strain. In response to this the prisoners of Wales and the duke and duchess of York responded on the balcony which caused more enthusiasm. For a quarter of an hour the royal duke remained bareheaded before this great, yelling mass. The people, however, wanted another sight of their queen and it was over half an hour before the crowd, realizing that her majesty was not coming out, broke up.

Those who saw the queen unveiled said she looked remarkably well. The journey from Windsor and the long ride through the defending din, exposed to the keen, east wind, was a trying experience for any one. The queen, who had seen the queen already did not suffer an unusual fatigue.

Presented with the City Sword.

The queen visited the city this afternoon, reaching its confines on the embankment, opposite the temple steps, at about 4 o'clock, where she was welcomed by the lord mayor and corporation in their robes of state. The lord mayor presented her majesty with the city sword of state.

With a smile the queen touched the sword and returned it to the lord mayor, saying: "Thank you, for all my city has done." To which the mayor replied: "Your gracious majesty's words will forever be treasured in my heart."

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