

ROBERTS HOLDS KEYS

Capital of Orange Free State is Delivered Into His Hands.

UNION JACK FLIES FROM THE STATE HOUSE

Flag Made Specially for the Purpose by the Wife of Lord Roberts.

BOERS OFFER ONLY FEIBLE RESISTANCE

Brigade is Now Encamped on Charming Estate Commanding the Town.

POPULATION IS ANXIOUS AS TO OUTCOME

Tales of British Atrocities Cause Alarm Among the Inhabitants—Clever Capture Consummated of Twelve Locomotives.

Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co. CAPETOWN, March 15.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The expected opposition to our entry of Bloemfontein resolved itself into a miscellaneous sniping. The cavalry division, sweeping around west of the town from Louisa, overcame the slight opposition there in a week. The enemy had prepared formidable entrenchments along the kopjes three miles south of the town, but finding his flank thus turned by the cavalry advance retreated precipitately, leaving the spades in the trenches.

Consequent upon the enemy's retirement the line of infantry's advance was altered by helicopter. The brigade is now camping beyond the kopje at a charming estate, commanding the town from the south. The cavalry occupies the low ground surrounding the town.

The landforce met Roberts outside the town, handling him the key in medieval fashion. The inhabitants filled the streets and the market place, many wearing the British colors and cheering the entry of the various troops and horse.

The chief sentiment is apparently anxiety as to what our rule may mean. Every kind of atrocity is attributed as among our intentions. There is no scarcity of common food stuffs and rich herds. Forage is not abundant, but chaff and oat hay is to be had.

Hunter Weston and ten men succeeded in cutting the railway north of the town, thus isolating about a dozen locomotives from the Transvaal. These machines are reported injured, but their repair is not likely to be difficult, making the capture of the greatest importance. The outcome of an exceedingly smart piece of work, causing yet another surprise to the Boers, who are reported to have quarreled with the Free State's agent as to the proper defense of Bloemfontein.

The rest here will prove most acceptable to man and beast, including specially the transport animals.

Honors for the Cavalry.

Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co. BLOEMFONTEIN, March 15.—(Special Telegram.)—The rapidity of the cavalry advance is responsible for the abandonment of Bloemfontein. The enemy's entrenchment position at Brandkop, south of the town, might have defied a front attack, but a division of cavalry outflanked it, passing west from Lieueunburg. The defenders thereupon retreated precipitately to Bloemfontein, where a quarrel ensued, the Transvaalers threatening to burn the town unless the Free State's defenders fled.

Further reports of our advance caused a stampede of the capital, already crowded with fugitives, pushed northward before the line was cut by Weston Fisher, who only succeeded in catching the last train. Driving around the point of rupture Driven escaped by a subterfuge, assuming an intention to visit an outpost and having carriage in waiting outside the town. The burghers desired to detain him to surrender to Roberts and to meet like a man the fate into which he had involved his country.

Several thousand British troops are in the town, the majority remaining being favorable to the clemency shown, expecting plunder, imprisonment and worse. A large proportion of the civil officers of the Free State remained at their posts.

Union Jack on State House

LONDON, March 15.—At precisely 1:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon a union jack, specially made for the purpose by Lady Roberts, was hoisted over the presidency at Bloemfontein amidst the acclamations of the commander-in-chief and his staff, in which, curiously enough, the Orange Free State burghers appear to have joined with remarkable alacrity.

The opposition to the entry of the British troops into the capital was already broken. Boers were found occupying a few hills south of the place, but a few shells drove them off and at 10 in the morning some newspaper correspondents entering the town found the British flag flying from the tower which guided them to where Lord Roberts stood on the top of a hill, waiting for them. As spokesman, Mr. Fraser asked protection for life and property and surrendered the keys. Lord Roberts, accompanied by his staff, rode at the head of a cavalcade a mile long to the presidency, receiving an ovation throughout the route, culminating in a remarkable demonstration at the market square. Reaching the government buildings, Lord Roberts took possession of the city in the name of the queen and then repaired to the presidency, where the ceremony of hoisting the union jack ended forever, according to universal opinion here, the Boer government of the Free State.

During his progress through the town Lord Roberts stopped and ordered the instant replacement of goods which were being looted from the artillery barracks by Kaffirs, thus giving the populace an extraordinary assurance of the treatment they might expect from the victors.

Fight of Steyn.

President Steyn fled to Kroonstadt without replying to Lord Roberts' demand for his surrender and the commander-in-chief remarked afterwards, during the course of conversation while breakfasting at the farm of President Steyn's brother, that the ex-president had "become a nonentity." The British troops with the exception of those necessary to police the town remain outside.

The press dispatches giving most of the above interesting details also settle the point raised about the cutting of the railway and telegraph north of Bloemfontein, showing it was done by the British and not by the Royal engineers, accompanied by ten men, traversed the Boer lines and succeeded in cutting the wires and blowing up the tracks.

SHORT RATIONS AT MAKERING

Town Can Withstand Siege Only by Suffering Dire Hardship.

ENTRENCHMENTS ERECTED ALONG STREETS

Soup Kitchens Are Operated and Animals of All Descriptions Are Used to Stock the Larder—End Cannot Long Be Deferred.

REITZ DEFENDS BOER CAUSE

Lord Salisbury's Argument Answered by a Patriotic Aversion of the Burghers' Rights.

PRETORIA, March 14.—Secretary of State

Reitz's refusal of Lord Salisbury's argument in the reply to the Bloemfontein joint note was received today. Mr. Reitz says: "The British government, after the Bloemfontein conference, endeavored to force by threats certain changes in the internal government of the Transvaal contrary to the London convention. They also imported a large number of British troops into negotiations with a threat to take their own means to remove the grievances of their subjects."

"After waiting a fortnight, when an army corps was prepared and the reserves were being called out, the British government proceeded to demand the withdrawal of its troops, or otherwise it would accept the presence of the troops as a declaration of war. That was not necessarily intended as a message of war."

Concerning the armaments Mr. Reitz says: "These were bought openly in England and were the property of the high commissioner. He had full knowledge of them at the Bloemfontein conference and also full descriptions of those armaments were found among the officers' papers at Dundee."

Both the army and armaments were produced in evidence to the British government, and the discovery through secret cables that British cabinet ministers were implicated in the movement to fly away independence of the republic. Now all doubt is removed by Lord Salisbury's telegram. The burghers believe that they have been deceived, trusting God will defend the right."

Salisbury's Message III-Termed.

LONDON, March 15.—The Premier correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphing Wednesday says: "Mr. Reitz's statement has been published throughout the republic, but will not be forwarded to Lord Salisbury. Conversations I have had with the highest state officials show the republics were prepared to grant substantial reforms, etc., until the receipt of Lord Salisbury's telegram. As one of the highest statesmen remarked: 'Better half an egg than none, but better none than a rotten egg.'"

JOINING OF THREE COMMANDS

Brigade of Pole-Carew to Connect with Forces Under Clements and Gatacre.

BETHULIE BRIDGE CAMP, Wednesday, March 14.—General Clements' brigade has effected a junction with General Gatacre's troops at Burgerdorp. A patrol left today for Allwal North to join hands with General Brabant.

LONDON, March 15.—The War office has received the following from Lord Roberts: "BLOEMFONTEIN, Thursday, March 15.—7:55 p. m.—General Gatacre crossed the Orange river and occupied Bethulie this morning. General Reginald Pole-Carew, with 2,000 men of the Guards brigade, two guns and a small body of mounted infantry, left here in three trains this morning to join hands with General Gatacre and General Clements. He had passed Bethulie by 4:40 p. m. without meeting with opposition, having no engine drivers, firemen, fitters, moulders, smiths, carpenters, etc."

CARRINGTON TO THE FRONT

He Will Command the Rhodesian Field Force North and West of Transvaal.

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In this communication the secretary of the tribunal said the arbitrators had arrived at a decision and the printed judgment would be in the hands of the litigants probably within four, and certainly within eight, weeks from that date.

BOERS RETIRE NORTHWARD

Pretoria Dispatch Announces the Fall of the Free State Capital.

PRETORIA, Wednesday, March 14.—State Secretary Reitz this morning posted the following announcement: "The town of Bloemfontein was occupied by the British after the burghers had retired in a northerly direction. The seat of the government of the Free State has been already transferred to Kroonstadt."

Opinions of the Experts.

LONDON, March 15.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Experts rejoice over the movement of the Guards brigade south from Bloemfontein. They think some of the Free State's may be caught between that force and the British crossing the Orange river. The post of a Boer declares Butler's army will soon be ready to move against the Free State in conjunction with Roberts' next advance north and east.

Methuen Praises Cronje.

CAPETOWN, March 15.—Lord Methuen, speaking at the town hall, Kimberley, today, said: "Although some of the enemy's men were guilty of dastardly tricks, we must remember that their army is not organized with the same discipline as our own. I never wish to meet a braver general than Cronje and never served in a war where there was less vindictive feeling between the two armies than in this one."

Complications British Soldiers.

PRETORIA, Tuesday, March 13.—Before returning to the front today General Joubert said to a press representative: "The courage of the British soldiers is beyond question. To a fearless manner, but were not a match for the Mausers, which simply mowed them down."

LIE PASSED IN THE SENATE

Gallinger Asserts that Penrose Utters the Thing Which is Not.

INTERESTING QUESTION OF VERACITY

New Hampshire Senator Denies that He Told the Pennsylvania He Would Not Speak on the Quay Case.

THREATEN THE PENNY PARTY.

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PROFITS OF DIVINE HEALING

New Yorker Arrested, Charged with Using Mail to Defraud—Thirty Thousand Dollars a Week.

NEW YORK, March 15.—Francis Truth, head of the divine healing society which bears his name and whose advertisements have been spread over the whole country, was arrested tonight, charged with using the mails for fraudulent purposes. The proceeds of his society, a large amount, were seized by the officers and after Truth had been taken away a thorough search of the premises was instituted.

The place was elaborately fitted up. On one floor in one room there were at work twenty-eight girls, operators and copyists, whose wages are said to have ranged from \$3 to \$8 per week. In the next room there was a printing press which turned out circulars and the magazine, the Divine Healer.

Across the hall, which was richly furnished, are the parlors, elegantly carpeted and handsomely decorated. There was nearly a wagonload of letters which had evidently been accumulating for some time. These were either orders for a course of treatment, absent or otherwise as the case might be, or else inquiries as to the wonderful promises that had been so liberally advertised.

MOSCOW AND JOHANNESBURG

White Recalls Destruction of the Russian City in Justification of Kruger's Intention.

NEW YORK, March 15.—Montagu White tonight in an interview on Chamberlain's warning to President Kruger against destroying Johannesburg says: "I recall that Moscow, the holy Russian city, was burned. As a strategic necessity by the blowing up of Johannesburg would be justifiable. President Kruger could not afford to leave barracks, munitions, supplies and all else to the benefit of the enemy."

"As for the threat to hold President Kruger personally responsible and to try to condemn him for an act of vandalism that is absurd. The civilized world will stand with him at times, but I doubt if it will stand that."

EXPULSION FOR FAITH HEALING.

Kansas Methodist Preacher is Ousted from the Church.

WICHITA, Kan., March 15.—The committee on church conduct of the Southern Kansas Methodist conference today took decisive action against the Rev. Vincent expelled a Methodist minister from its ranks. Rev. S. D. Osborne was pastor of the First Methodist church at Peaville, Kan. Last fall he went to Chicago and studied "faith healing." He returned to his home town up "healing" as a business in connection with preaching. He so informed Presiding Elder Martindale.

That minister today read his letter to the committee and recommended that he be expelled from the church. The conference concurred accordingly. Rev. Vincent's name was disconnected from the Methodist church.

DEWEY'S CAPTAINS' BANQUET

Entertained by Colonial Club of New York—Cognate Lands Dewey in a Letter.

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Liberal members of Parliament are very much displeased at the answer of the government leader, Balfour, to inquiries as to what action the government would take toward suppressing disturbers of peace meetings.

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Pail Mall Gazette Prints Information Concerning Actions of United States Minister.

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Troops Being Concentrated at Odessa, According to Times' St. Petersburg Correspondent.

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French Financiers Anxious.

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London Press Approves.

LONDON, March 15.—Lord Salisbury's attitude toward the United States meets with the universal approval of the press. The Daily Graphic says: "It was not an easy

task, but Lord Salisbury has acquitted himself with conspicuous success.

The Daily Mail says: "Englishmen are sufficiently acquainted with American affairs not to misinterpret the attitude of the Washington cabinet. President McKinley has behaved to us with scrupulous fairness. The very correctness of his attitude has become a danger to him. It is idle to deny that the leaders of both parties in the United States are now exposed to a strong temptation, the love of the rebellious leaders to rise above this devil's bait."

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CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Fair, Continued Cold; Northerly Winds.

Table with 4 columns: Temperature at Omaha yesterday, Hour, Deg., and Forecast for today, Hour, Deg.

YANKEE COMPETITION FEARED

German Manufacturers Prepare to Forestall American Agricultural Exhibits in Russia.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Frank Mason, commercial attaché here, reports to the State department that the "Central Union of German Industrialists" has taken steps to forestall American exhibitors of agricultural implements at Paris in their purpose to hold an exhibition at Moscow at the close of the Paris exposition. This German association of agricultural implement manufacturers has sent out circulars to all manufacturers, pointing out the serious danger which is threatened by the American exhibit in Paris to the present large and important German trade in agricultural implements with Russia. Therefore, the German manufacturers are called upon to transfer their exhibits from the forthcoming exhibition in Paris next June, to Moscow or St. Petersburg, to forestall the American exhibitors. Already a sufficient number of favorable responses have been received to guarantee the success of the movement, so that it may be safely assumed, says Mason, that the German exposition will open in Moscow or St. Petersburg in advance of the American exposition.

HIGH MORTALITY OF PLAGUE

Fifty-Five Deaths Out of Sixty-Four Cases Thus Far in Honolulu.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Surgeon General Sternberg has received a report from Major B. D. Taylor, the surgeon in charge of the military hospital at Honolulu, under date of March 1, showing that since his