STATES MAY BE PAID

A LONG-STANDING BILL AGAINST THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

Effort Will Be Made to Appropriate Money for Refunding Cost of Equipping Troops During the War.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS

SENATE DECIDES, 27 TO 22, NOT TO CORRECT THE TARIFF BILL.

Fruitless Effort to Repeal the Free-Alcohol Clause—Debate on the Pickler Pension Bill in the House.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Senator Hawley has announced his intention of offering as an amendment to the general deficiency bill, when it comes up in the Senate, his bill already reported favorably from the military affairs committee to pay the amounts found due to a number of States, including Indiana, for expense incurred by them for enrolling, subsisting, clothing, arming, equipping and paying troops employed in suppressing the rebellion. Indiana's claim is comparatively small, being only $1,614.28. These claims have long been passed, but never paid. Recently the State of New York, becoming weary of delay, took legal steps to establish the validity of its claim. It carried the matter from one court to another until it finally reached the Supreme Court of the United States. On last Monday the Supreme Court decided in favor of the State of New York, hence the bills must be paid, and there is a fair prospect that the members of the many States interested will be able to form a combination strong enough to compel the House conferees, in spite of Speaker Reed's orders for economy everywhere, to accept the Hawley amendment when adopted in the Senate.

NO TARIFF LEGISLATION.

The Senate Has Spoken Again on the Question.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The tariff question made its appearance unexpectedly in the Senate to-day and for a time it looked as though the routine of considering appropriation bills would give way to a general tariff debate. Mr. Sherman endeavored to secure action on the bill relating to fruit brandies and alcohol used in the arts. Mr. Chandler gave warning, however, that if the bill was taken up it would involve a debate on the entire tariff question. Mr. Platt went further by stating that if this correction of the revenue laws was attempted he would urge that the entire Wilson law be repealed and the former McKinley law revived. After these announcements the vote on Mr. Sherman's motion to proceed was followed with great interest, resulting in the defeat of the motion 22 to 27. The sundry civil appropriation bill was completed and passed during the day. As it passed the House it carried about $30,000,000; as reported to the Senate it reached $35,000,000 and with amendments added to-day the total was raised to $37,000,000.

At the opening of the session Mr. Lodge secured the adoption of a resolution asking the Postmaster-general to take steps for expediting the distribution of goods through the postoffice. The resolution seeks to overcome a congestion in the Washington postoffice to the pressure of seed shipments, the number of seeds packages received being so great as to block passage ways and obstruct business.

Mr. Sherman again sought to proceed with the bill concerning tax on fruit brandies, to which the finance committee had offered an amendment repealing the rebate tax on alcohol used in the arts. Mr. Peffer objected. Thereupon Mr. Sherman moved to take up the bill, and a test vote was in prospect.

Mr. Chandler again urged that Mr. Sherman's course invited a discussion of the entire tariff question, a subject which, as had been announced, was as dead as Julius Caesar. With a tariff debate inaugurated, other pressing subjects would be crowded out, said Mr. Chandler.

Mr. Sherman responded that there was no purpose to precipitate the whole tariff question, and explained that millions were being lost by the failure to correct the errors of the present law.

Mr. Peffer added his protest against opening a tariff debate, which, he said, would crowd back the bond resolution, which had the right of way by unanimous consent.

Mr. Platt, of Connecticut, opposed going on with the bill, and added: "If we are to enter on the correction of tariff mistakes, then I think we should correct the greatest mistake of all—the Wilson bill—by repealing it."

With the repeal of that law the McKinley law would be revived, Mr. Platt said.

"And then we would have less revenue instead of more," interjected Mr. Gray.

"It will bring more," declared Mr. Platt.

"Bring it in here and we'll discuss that," said Mr. Gray.

"Yes, we are ready to discuss it," said Mr. Platt.

The vote was then taken, much interest being manifested, as it was felt to involve the chance of a general reopening of the tariff question. Mr. Sherman's motion was defeated—yeas, 22; nays, 27, as follows:

Yeas—Republicans: Allison, Brown, Sherman, Teller and Wolcott—5. Democrats: Bate, Berry, Blackburn, Brice, Caffery, Call, Chilton, Cockrell, Gordon, Gray, Martin, Mills, Palmer, Pasco, Pugh, Vest and Walthall—17.

Nays—Republicans: Baker, Burrows, Cannon, Carter, Chandler, Clark, Cullom, Davis, Frye, Gallinger, Gear, Hansbrough, Hawley, Lodge, Mantle, Nelson, Pettigrew, Platt, Proctor, Warren, Wilson—21. Democrats: Bacon, Tillman, Turpie—3. Populists: Allen, Butler and Peffer—3.

After this flurry consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill was resumed. Mr. Perkins secured a new amendment appropriating $250,000 for a revenue cutter of the first-class for the Pacific coast, and Mr. Frye had the number of new revenue cutters for the lakes increased from one to two, to cost $400,000 for both.

An amendment by Mr. Gordon was made increasing the cost of the public building at Savannah, Ga., from $400,000 to $500,000.

Mr. Bate offered an amendment embracing over three hundred claims aggregating $572,000, favorably acted on by the Court of Claims under the Bowman act. Mr. Allison made a point of order against adding this to an appropriation bill, and the amendment went over until later.

An amendment was made increasing the limit of cost for the public building at Kansas City, Mo., from $1,200,000 to $1,316,000; appropriating $150,000 for a revenue cutter for the gulf of Mexico; appropriating $50,000 for buildings at the military post at Bismarck, N. D., and a like sum for the military post at Fort Riley, Kan., and appropriating $75,000 for the public buildings at Salt Lake City.

Mr. Hawley offered an amendmenet directing that the printing of postage stamps at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing be discontinued and that the printing be done by contract after public competition. This opened an extended discussion. The amendment was finally ruled out on a point of order made by Mr. Nelson, whereupon Mr. Platt appealed from the decision of the Chair (Mr. Chilton presiding.) Considerable feeling was shown in the discussion. Mr. Nelson declared that this move was in the interest of disappointed bidders. The appeal was afterward withdrawn. The amendment was later offered in another form and defeated on a vote. The claims under the Bowman act were ruled out on a point of order. As thus amended the sundry civil bill was passed.

Mr. Chandler asked for early action on the resolution for a Senate investigation into Alabama elections. This brought out a statement from Mr. Allen that his vote and that of other Populists would be given for the investigation, so that if the forty-four Republican votes were given for it Mr. Allen said the resolution would pass. Mr. Pugh said it would be the most remarkable event in the history of the Senate if forty-four Senators voted for this investigation.

At 5 p. m. the Senate held an executive session, and soon after adjourned.

DEBATE IN THE HOUSE.

The Pickler Pension Bill Discussed Most of Saturday.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—In the House to-day a partial report on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was sent back to conference. In connection with the report Mr. Grosvenor called attention to a provision in the bill which would prevent the Legislative Assembly of Oklahoma from removing the capital of the Territory to Guthrie. Mr. Flynn, of Oklahoma, defended the provision.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to hold a night session to-night for general debate on the Pickler pension bill, and after an unsuccessful attempt by Mr. Pickler to get unanimous consent for consideration of a resolution to set aside Saturday, May 2, for consideration of private pension bills and by Mr. Terry to take up a private pension bill the House resumed consideration of the Pickler general pension bill, Mr. Bartlett speaking in opposition. He thought the scope of the law of 1890 should not be increased. He took Mr. Mahany to task for attacking his colleague, Mr. McClellan, during the debate yesterday.

"I did not attack him," interrupted Mr. Mahany.

"You remarked on the strange sight of a son of Gen. George B. McClelland blocking the path of justice to old soldiers."

"Do you construe that as an attack?"

"I do."

"You are entitled to your construction." (Republican applause.)

Mr. Grosvenor indorsed the bill. He admitted that the first section, granting pensions to Confederate soldiers who deserted and joined the Union army ninety days before Appomattox, might lead to abuses. But, he argued, there were in several parts of the South, notably in East Tennessee, loyal Union men who had been forced into the Confederate army. To do justice to them, he was willing to hazard the possibility of abuses elsewhere.

Mr. Kerr criticised the action of the administration regarding pension matters, and said the crusade against the old soldiers had been done designedly and with premeditation. All the acts of the officials of the Interior Department had been with a view to putting obstacles in the way of soldiers obtaining pensions.

Mr. Miles thought the soldiers were entitled to liberal legislation on pension matters, and he had endeavored to act on that theory. He entered a protest against the attack that had been made by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Connolly) on the deceased soldier, General McClellan, and on his son (who opposed some provisions of the present bill.)

At half past 2 o'clock, without concluding debate on the bill, the House entered on the special order—the delivery of the eulogies on the late Representative William H. Craine, of Texas. Remarks were delivered by Messrs. Pendleton, of Texas; Walsh, of New York; Cooper, of Florida; Cooper, of Texas; Crowley, of Texas; Eddy, of Minnesota; Bell, of Texas; Milliken, of Maine; Willis, of Delaware. Then, at 4:05 p. m., the House, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, adjourned until 8 o'clock to-night.

There were less than a dozen members present when the House met this evening for further debate on the pension bill. Mr. Payne presided and Mr. Hardy, of Indiana, opened in favor of the bill. He declared himself in favor of giving every man who served in the army a pension if he needed it, and to every soldier's widow and orphan.

Mr. Gibson made a special plea for justice to certain classes of persons in his State who were soldiers for a time, but were not regularly mustered.

Mr. Wheeler declared that the "harangues" of the past three days had been for the purpose of trying to tell the country that the Republican party was the friend of the soldier and that the Democratic party was not. He declared that the Democratic party had been liberal in appropriations for the soldiers.

Mr. Curtis, of Kansas, declared that every general pension law on the statute books had been put there by Republican votes. The only trouble with the bill under consideration was that it did not go far enough. Mr. Mahany also spoke in favor of the bill. At 10:05 the House adjourned.

ANOTHER PENSION VETO.

The President Disapproves the Francis E. Hoover Bill.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The President to-day sent to the House a message vetoing the bill granting a pension of $50 to Francis E. Hoover. The President says he does not understand that it is claimed in any quarter that the present helpless condition of this soldier is at all attributable to his army service. Continuing, the President says: "He never applied for a pension until after the passage of the law of 1890, providing for a pension for those who had served in the army and are unable to maintain themselves by manual labor on account of disability not chargeable to army service. The committee of the House of Representatives in reporting this bill declares: 'The testimony does not show the disease of the soldier to be of service origin.' The beneficiary is now receiving the largest pension permitted under the law of 1890. His condition may well excite our sympathy; but to grant him a pension of $50 a month without the least suggestion that his pitiable disability is related to his army service, and in view of the fact that he is now reveiving the highest pension allowed by a general law enacted to expressly meet such cases, it seems to me would result in an unfair discrimination as against many thousand worthy soldiers similarly situated, and would invite applications which, while difficult to refuse in the face of such a precedent, must certainly lead to the breaking down of all limitations and restrictions provided by our laws regulating pensions. The value of pension legislation depends as much upon fairness and justice in its administration as it does upon its liberality and generosity."

THE PACIFIC ROADS BILL.

Majority Report Presented to the House by Chairman Powers.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Chairman Powers, of the House committee on Pacific railroads, to-day presented to the House the report of the majority of the committee on the Pacific railroad bill. It makes a very comprehensive and exhaustive document. The report sketches briefly the familiar history of the legislation by which the government granted subsidy bonds to the Pacific roads, and then outlines exhaustively the provisions which Congress has made from time to time for the repayment of the bonds. The report says on this point: "The acts of Congress prescribing the provision to be made by the companies for the repayment of bonds and the interest thereon have been fully complied with by the companies. It was believed by Congress," the report further says, "that the provision so prescribed to be made would suffice to discharge the subsidy bonds and interest thereon at maturity. As a matter of fact they have not sufficed. The insufficiency of the congressional provision has not resulted from any failure or omission of any of the companies to fully carry out the provisions of the various acts of Congress, but has resulted from two causes, first, the great reduction of rates and transportation, which has reduced far beyond the original anticipation the amount of compensation which the companies were entitled to receive from the United States for government transportation, and, second, the reduced and, until a very recent date, the constantly diminishing rate of interest on the government bonds in which the Thurman sinking fund was originally required to be invested." Three possible lines of policy seem open to the government, Mr. Powers states, namely:

"First—To enter into possession of the properties, which would involve the immediate payment of $61,385,000 first-mortgage bonds.

"Second—Foreclosure and sale of the government's lien, which would practically reach the same result of the government's acquisition of the roads. The roads, if sold for what they would fetch would yield little or nothing for the government on its debt.

"Third—To make an arrangement with the companies which should secure to the government the payment of mixed amounts at prescribed dates, as large as the reasonably anticipated earnings would bear."

The committee, the report continues, adopted the third plan, and extended the government lien to embrace the whole properties, including terminals, branch lines and feeders and equipments.

Mr. Powers's report concludes: "It is manifest that unless a bill providing for the settlement of the indebtedness of these railways is adopted by Congress, it must make immediate provision for the payment of the first mortgage bonds upon the subsidized portions of the Union Pacific railroad, and early provision for the payment of the like bonds on the subsidized parts of the Central Pacific railroad, and, in addition to this, adequate provision for the acquirement of such portions of the unsubsidized properties as are already indispensable to the operation of the aided portions. In the present condition of the treasury no funds are available for such application, and in the event that Congress should desire to carry such an undertaking into effect, it must immediately provide the necessary revenue to cover the appropriation. The provision reasonably necessary for such purpose would exceed $80,000,000. The committee cannot recommend any increase of the public debt by the issue of the bonds of the United States, which would be required for such a purpose. It is believed that for the first time in the history of this matter the relations of the Pacific railroads to the United States may and should unhesitatingly be dealt with as a business problem. It is believed that this legislation should be comprehensive and final, and should terminate the intimate relations of the government with the enterprises of these Pacific railroad companies.

No Successor Yet to Satolli.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Cardinal Satolli has received no intimation, official or otherwise, as to his successor as papal delegate, and the report that Delegate Alvaradi, present nuncio to Mexico, would succeed him at Washington is regarded as based only on speculation, as no determination has been reached at Rome. There is some doubt expressed as to whether the delegate to Mexico would be transferred to the United just as his services in Mexico were beginning. As yet there is no intimation of Cardinal Satolli's departure. There have been unofficial reports current in Rome that a consistory would assemble in June, in which case Cardinal Satolli might be summoned to Rome, although his presence at the consistory would not be imperative. The general impression prevails that when the Cardinal returns to Rome he will become a member of the Propaganda, as a result of his intimate acquaintance with the affairs of the church throughout the world, and particularly in America.

Venezuela Seeking Immigrants.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—United States Consul Plumacher, at Maracaibo, has furnished the State Department with a copy of a contract concluded by the Venezuelan government with Dr. Galavis for the introduction of 60,000 immigrants from America, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Ireland, Italy and Holland. Special inducements are offered by the Venezuelan government to secure such immigration. The consul says that if this effort proves uccessful it will be followed by a vigorous policy of encouraging immigration, so much needed for the development of the vast resources of the country.

House Programme.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The House programme for next week was considered to-day by the committee on rules. It was decided to let the debate on the pension bill continue for a reasonable time, and as many members desired to put themselves on record on the bill there may be several night sessions for speechmaking, most of which will be done by the Republicans. No rule to limit debate will be proposed by the committee, but the House may make an agreement to vote at a certain time. After the pension bill the bankruptcy bill probably will be the order.

River and Harbor Bill Changes.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The river and harbor appropriation bill has been practically completed by the Senate committee on commerce, and will probably be reported to the Senate on Monday. Some new legislation is added to the bill. As to contracts, the Secretary of War is to authorize them in whole or in part; he may also modify the projects authorized if the cost is not increased. All persons employed on public works of engineering intrusted to the engineer corps, it is stated, must be hired by the officers of the engineer corps.

Rev. Knapp at Alexandretta.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Secretary Olney received a cablegram to-day from Charge Riddle, at Constantinople, saying that missionary Knapp, who was charged with inciting the Armenians at Bitlis to insurrection, had been delivered by the Turkish authorities to the United States consul at Alexandretta.

Graves's Case Against Carlisle.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The case of William Graves, of New York city, against Secretary Carlisle, to compel the latter to award to him $4,500,000 of the recent issue of bonds to which Graves claims he is entitled through acceptance of his bids, will be heard in the District Supreme Court next Saturday. The case came up before Judge Cole to-day and was deferred at the request of counsel for Graves, who wanted more time to examine Secretary Carlisle's reply. Assistant Attorney-general Dickinson appeared for the Secretary.

DISASTER IN MEXICO.

Sixty-Seven Men Either Killed, Injured or Entombed in a Silver Mine.

CHIHUAHUA, Mex., April 25.—The most terrible mining disaster that has ever occurred in northern Mexico happened Thursday afternoon at the Vieja mine, about twelve miles from this city, in the Santa Eulalia district. The mine is a very rich silver mine and has been worked for the last hundred years. The roof of the mine has been supported by great pillars of ore, and a few weeks ago P. R. Prieto, the owner, began taking out these supports. Prieto urged the miners, who are Mexicans, to continue at work, in spite of protests, it is said, and the terrible accident resulted. Eighty-five men were at work when the cave-in occurred. Of these eighteen escaped, sixty-seven were buried, and of these thirty-seven have been taken out, seven of whom are dead and thirty seriously crushed, and many will not live. There is very little chance of recovering alive the thirty men yet under the earth. The Governor left here to-day for the scene.

"BEN-HUR" IN COURT.

Gen. Lew Wallace and Harper Bros. Sue the Firm of Riley Brothers.

NEW YORK, April 25.—The World this morning says: General Lew Wallace and his publishers, Harper Brothers, have brought suit against the firm of Herbert J. Riley Brothers, of Bradford, England, and of this city. When "Ben-Hur" was printed by the Harpers they reserved all rights to the publication and dramatization of the novel. In a year or two they sold the dramatization rights to Clark & Co., a Western firm. Riley Brothers, who make stereopticons, spent $5,000 in getting out an illustrated lecture on the novel. Clark & Coxe found out last winter that these lectures, with the magic lantern accompaniment, depicting scenes in "Ben-Hur," were being given throughout Michigan and Wisconsin. They objected and the suit is the result. First, however, they bought the entire lecture outfit. They claim to have been damaged to the extent of $10,000. The case came up in the United States Circuit Court, but was adjourned to May 1. M. D. Wilber is counsel for the defense and he contends that the lecture was no infringement of the right to dramatize. Augustus T. Gurlitz represents the plaintiffs.

THREE FIENDISH BOYS.

Burned Their Infirm Father with Live Coals and a Red-Hot Iron.

ATLANTA, Ga., April 25.—Tales of horrible cruelty that might have resulted in fratricide were told in the Criminal Court here to-day by the neighbors of J. E. Rateree, ninety years old, who lives in South Atlanta. Ezzard, Warren and Albert Rateree, none of them over fifteen years of age, and all sons of John Rateree, were charged with assault and battery. The victim of their assault was their aged and infirm father. The evidence introduced showed that the boys had frequently beaten the old man with sticks. At one time they put hot coals down his back, and once they heated an iron rod to white heat and burned him with it. After the evidence the three boys pleaded guilty. While the court sentenced the three youths, the father asked that the sentence be suspended. He agreed to have the boys brought back to court if they beat him again. The court agreed to this and the boys were released.

MUCH TO WORRY HIM

LORD SALISBURY BURDENED WITH MANY GRIEVOUS CARES.

The Venezuelan Dispute, the Boers, the Matabeles and European Complications, All Sources of Trouble.

SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

REBELLIOUS BLACKS GRADUALLY ENCIRCLING BULUWAYO.

President Kruger Said to Be Preparing for a Great Struggle with Britain, and to Have the Advantage.

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LONDON, April 25.—With the South African, Egyptian, Venezuelan and far Eastern complications on his mind, to say nothing of the European entanglements, the Marquis of Salisbury can hardly be said to be free from care, or likely to regularly enjoy his sleep undisturbed by nightmares.

The Saturday Review, referring to the Venezuelan question, says: "It is incumbent on us to reach an understanding on the general question of arbitration before the American commission reports, and we can only hope that the Marquis of Salisbury will not allow the accepted time to slip away unused." The Speaker remarks: "It is incredible that the ministers are willing to risk further difficulties with America, when the difficulties elsewhere show no signs of diminishing."

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. George M. Curzon, is to make a further statement in the House of Commons on Monday regarding the progress of the negotiations with the United States on the subject of Venezuela. In the meantime the Times, in its editorials, accurately reflects the government view, since a plan for general arbitration has been proposed in England, it is considered in Washington that the proposals for arbitrating the Venezuelan frontier dispute were merged in it. The Times says: "It is assumed that the Marquis of Salisbury rejected the Washington proposals in regard to Venezuela. The Marquis of Salisbury certainly did not accept the proposals as they stood, but it was not imagined that the action taken in regard to them should possibly be regarded as a rejection. The difficulty was in regard to the definition of settled districts, and the Marquis of Salisbury's efforts to protect British subjects did not promise to be successful, and accordingly he attempted to solve the problem of Venezuelan arbitration by solving the problem of general arbitration." The Times' statement that the Uruan incident is settled is classed as being premature, although it is added there is every prospect of its ultimate satisfactory settlement.

President Kruger's declination of the invitation of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, to visit England, on the ground that his presence in the Transvaal is required by the Volksraad, has cast a damper over the South African negotiations, although it is said to-day that the Anglo-Transvaal relations will be greatly benefitted by the decision of the Johannesburg "reformers" to plead guilty. It is declared here that this determination was reached on advice from high quarters, and in order not to give the Transvaal any further annoyance, and the announcement that the other counts against the prisoners have been abandoned is interpreted as indicating that the authorkies have accepted the prisoners' plea as an apology. President Kruger's refusal, however, has caused a great deal of irritation, and it is felt that the Boer statesman is simply "fooling" Mr. Chamberlain by his dallying answer. The latter is severely blamed for the passage in his recent speech which described the Transvaal government as being defective and corrupt. This is classed as unnecessarily offensive to the Transvaal at a delicate juncture, and the explanation of the Secretary of State for the Colonies that it was a matter of common repute is regarded as rather tame.

The English newspapers continue to publish stories of the German-Transvaal entente, the arming of the burghers and the erection of forts; make calculations of the number of Dutch in South Africa who could take the field, and estimate how many British troops would be required in case of war, etc. In brief it is the general opinion that a serious conflict between the British and the Boers must come, but that the Transvaal will delay the moment until fully armed, and Great Britain will delay until the memory of Jameson's raid is effaced from the minds of the Afrikanders and the younger men of the Transvaal are ready to turn against the so-called antiquated clique at the head of affairs.

The news of the sortie from Buluwayo and the heroism of several officers and troops in risking their lives to save comrades has aroused much enthusiasm here, and this feeling will increase when it becomes more generally known that half of the number of the wounded received their injuries while assisting wounded companions in arms. An officer was killed after giving his horse to a severely wounded friend.

The news from Egypt shows that the Dervishes along the Nile are unusually inactive. It was thought that they would have already attacked the lines of communication, but apparently they are waiting for the Khalifa's orders or are planning a combined attack on the Anglo-Egyptian forces. There is no let-up in the work of forwarding ammunition and supplies to the front, and the most untiring activity is witnessed on all slides. A special fleet of light draught steamers will soon be placed on the upper Nile.

All signs point to a revival of the European war scare with renewed force, after the fetes attending the coronation of the Czar are over. Another coup d'etat is believed to be preparing in Bulgaria, and, by general consent, the intention of taking the initiative is ascribed to Russia. Hence the undoubted anxiety in England to get the Venezuelan question off her hands before the continental complications begin.

PLANS OF MATABELES.

They Will Attempt to Surround Buluwayo and Cut Off Supplies.

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CAPE TOWN, April 25.—Every additional item of news from Buluwayo shows that the small body of British troops, three hundred of which sortied Friday morning from that town and engaged a Matabele army occupying about four miles of the north bank of the Umguza river, displayed the greatest gallantry. Several remarkable examples of heroism are recorded on the part of officers and troopers in saving the lives of wounded comrades at the risk of their own lives. One officer gave his horse to a badly wounded comrade and soon afterwards was killed while fighting his way back to his corps. The general result of the engagement appears to have been a reverse for the British, who were greatly outnumbered and once were nearly surrounded. The Matabeles showed much superior knowledge of tactics than they did while fighting years back. They threw themselves on the ground when they saw the machine guns going into action and repeatedly tried to outflank the troopers. The evidence points to the Matabeles having the intention of endeavoring to surround the town and cut off communication with it in all directions. A patrol was to have left Buluwayo on Thursday in order to ascertain if the route to Salisbury was still open for the advance of the relief column dispatched from Mafeking, on which body of men rests the hope of relieving Buluwayo. The advance guard of this column is expected to reach the outposts of Buluwayo during the first week in May and the main body it is hoped will reach the besieged town afterward.

The relief corps from Mafeking consists of twenty-eight officers, 600 troopers, 732 horses and nine machine guns. The column also has with it ample supplies of food and ammunition, and is advancing by easy stages so as to be in good fighting condition all the time. The greatest vigilance is also observed, as it is believed that a strong Matabele force has started south to intercept the corps.

Dispatches received here from London say that the Middlesex regiment and the first detachment of mounted infantry leave England to-day for the Cape to relieve the troops here and enable the latter to be moved up country.

The roads, considering that some thirty thousand Matabeles are believed to be in arms, are tolerably safe. A coach, with passengers and mails, left Buluwayo on Thursday last and there is every expectation that it will reach its destination in safety, although small bodies of insurgent natives, who have left the Matoppo hills, are raiding cattle here and there, killing the women and children of the friendly natives and slaughtering the "friendlies" at every opportunity. It is said that the coach has a small Maxim gun mounted on its roof, but this is not generaly credited here, as Buluwayo can ill afford to allow any of its small stock of rapid-fire guns to leave the place until the relief column reaches the beleaguered town.

A number of friendly natives belonging to the Hope Fountain Mission have been killed by insurgent Matabeles, who robbed them of all their possessions. A band of hostiles is reported to be in the vicinity of Fig Tree, not far from Mangwe, and it is believed this was the band which recently cut the telegraph line. They are now encamped a few miles south of Fig Tree. A strong scouting party from Mangwe has taken up their trail.

Since the sortie from Buluwayo the Matabeles in that vicinity seem to have been reinforced by one or more impis and native scouts can be made out on nearly all sides watching the British outposts. Although strict orders have been issued to husband the stock of ammunition to the utmost, "potshots" are occasionally taken at the native scouts, and occasionally the latter reply.

There has been a slight brush between a Buluwayo party and some insurgents at Mavenskraw. Two or three natives were killed.

The announcement that President Kruger has definitely declined to accept the invitation of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Chaberlain, to visit England, was no surprise here, and has been discounted in these dispatches. President Kruger, it has been frequently stated, never intended to go to England, but he saw in the invitation a brilliant opportunity to gain time, and he has done so most neatly. He has clearly outmaneuvered Mr. Chamberlain, who only now is beginning to see the gravity of the South African situation. All statements to the contrary, as repeatedly asserted, the situation has fined itself down to preparing for a struggle between Great Britain and the Transvaal (the latter backed by Germany), for predominance in South Africa, and, up to the present, the Boers have the best of it by a large majority. While Mr. Chamberlain has been dickering and twisting, President Kruger has gone straight to the front and is openly arming and fortifying for the grand struggle to come. The Transvaal troops could be placed in the field, to the number of about 60,000, in a week or so, although there is yet much to be done in the way of preparations, but it will take Great Britain several months at least to reach the stage of preparation, and a great deal might happen in that time. Mr. Chamberlain has lost four months of very valuable time; President Kruger has not lost four hours of the same time in preparing for the South African coup, and, it is claimed in Boer circles here, the Transvaal leaders will open the eyes of the British considerably when the right moment arrives.

GOSSIP OF LONDON TOWN.

Rosebery's Heir to Parliamentary Dignities—Races and Pictures.

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LONDON, April 25.—The Saturday Review says that Lord Rosebery, the Liberal leader, regards his life as most uncertain, and has chosen as heir to all his parliamentary dignities and authority Sir Edward Grey, who was Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in the Rosebery administration. But Lord Rosebery's desire in this respect has added to the general confusion already existing in the Liberal party. Sir Edward Grey was undoubtedly a success as Under Foreign Secretary, but he is only about thirty-three years of age, and to put him over Mr. Henry Asquith, Sir William Vernon-Harcourt and Sir Henry Fowler would, the Saturday Review thinks, be "a piece of cynical insolence only explained by Lord Rosebery's incapacity to weigh men."

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The rival attractions of the races at Sandown Park and the private view of the new gallery have divided the crowds of fashionable people to-day, and there are many bright spring toilets in both places. The weather is warm and bright for the first time this week. The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Teck, the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelibe and Mrs. Langtry, who is fast increasing her racing stable, and who yesterday made the lucky purchase of Amberite just before that horse won the Maiden plate, have been daily frequenters of Sandown. The new gallery was crowded all the afternoon by people who admired the paintings of Sargent, Watts, Burne-Jones, Parsons, Alma, Tedema and others. Sargent's portrait of Countess Clary is the sensation of the exhibit. The Westminster Gazette says: "It fairly swamps everything else, and the story of the new gallery this year, as two years ago, is Sargent first and the rest nowhere."

* * *

For some time past the usual crusade against vivisection has been occupying much space in the daily press. The twenty-first anniversary of the foundation of the International Anti-vivisection Society will be held at St. Martin's Town Hall on May 13. On this occasion Lord Coleridge will preside.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain has consented to preside at the Chambers of Commerce congress, which will be held at the City Company's hall on the five days following June 9. During the week a large reception for the members of the congress will be given at the Imperial Institute.

* * *

The coming season of grand Italian opera at Covent Garden promises to outrival its predecessors. Sir Augustus Harris is now in Vienna in search of attractions for the ballet, which will be a marked feature of the performances. The principals in the opera will be nearly the same as those who have been in the United States during the past season—Melba, Calve, Nordica, the De Reszkes and Mlle. Olitzka. Mme. Albani will also be of the company. The management hints at one or two striking novelties.

The long proposed matinee of "Romeo and Juliet," with the lovers played by Esme and Vera Beringer, is now definitely announced for the afternoon of May 14. The performance will be given at the Prince of Wales Theater, and the receipts will be forwarded to the secretary of the Actors' Orphanage Fund.

Mr. Calmour, who has published several small volumes of poetry, has been commissioned by Beerbohm Tree to write a new play in three acts, dealing with life in the middles ages. The contract calls for its completion by next August.

Since Trafalgar Theater was renamed "The Duke of York's" it was unfortunate until "The Gay Parisienne" changed the tide and scored a great success.

Maud Jeffries, whose acting of the character of Mercia, in "The Sign of the Cross," has been one of the features of the play, will leave Mr. Barrett's company in June and return to America.

Yamagata in France.

HAVRE, France, April 25.—Considerable of a crowd assebled on the quays and jettys to-night for the purpose of welcoming Marquis Yamagata, senior marshal of the Japanese army, and the highest military officer of that empire, who arrived here on La Touraine at 6 o'clock this evening. Marquis Yamagata was cheered heartily by the assembled throng. He was given an enthusiastic reception in the saloon of the steamer by the representatives of the Japanese legation at Paris. In an interview Marquis Yamagata said the trip around the world, in connection with his journey to St. Petersburg to attend the coronation of the Czar, as special plenipotentiary and representative of the Japanese Emperor, had already proved one of the most memorable tours of his life. He regretted his inability to discuss politics, remarking that he was not on a political mission. He said that he had had a delightful trip and that he had been overwhelmed by the cordiality of the reception accorded him in America. He will proceed to Paris to-morrow.

M. Sarrien May Form a Cabinet.

PARIS, April 25.—M. Sarrien, who was Minister for the Interior in the Bourgeois Cabinet, was to-day asked to undertake the formation of a Cabinet. At 9 o'clock to-night he informed President Faure that he could not see any prospect of the solution of the present crisis except in the formation of a Cabinet of conciliation, looking to an agreement with the progressive programme. M. Sarrien, however, reserved his reply regarding the acceptance of the mission to form a Cabinet until morning, for the purpose of consulting with friends. This evening M. Sarrien spent the hours in close conference with M. Bourgeois.

Duel with Pistols and Sabres.

BUDA-PESTH, April 25.—A duel has been fought between Baron Feyervany, Minister for Defense, and Deputy Bernat. Pistols were the weapons first used and shots were exchanged without effect. The duel was then, according to the conditions, continued with sabers until one of the combatants was disabled. Deputy Bernat was felled to the ground with a severe cut across the temple.

War in German Southwest Africa.

BERLIN, April 25.—The Cologne Gazette says that there has been fighting in German Southwest Africa, in which two German officers and six men were killed. The revolt at present is confined to the Khanas and Hottentots, but may spread to the Herros and Wildoots tribes.

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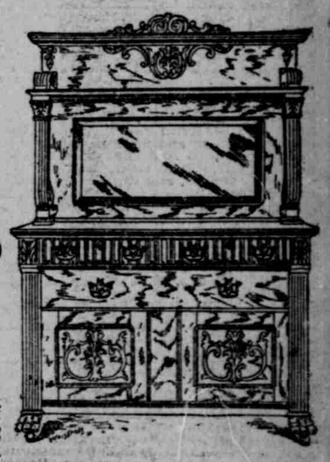

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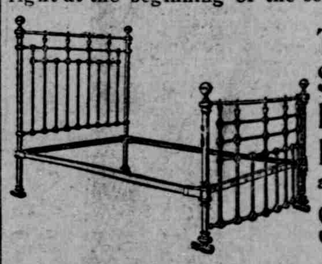

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