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AID FOR MAFEKING.

STRONG EXPEDITION STARTS FROM KIMBERLEY.

FRENCH AGAIN AT BLOEMFONTEIN—OLIVIER MAY ESCAPE—THE BOER DELEGATES.

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[BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.]

London, March 27, 6 a. m.—An expedition left Kimberley yesterday with the primary object of distressing the Boers in the Griquatown District. The British force is a strong one, and "The Mail," which announces the news, naturally concludes that a far more comprehensive movement is intended than the mere dispersal or defeat of the small Boer force at Griquatown, 106 miles northwest of Kimberley. It is not improbable that the column may, after clearing the western border, swing round northward, and, aided by a simultaneous movement at Warrenton, endeavor to advance north to Mafeking.

General French has returned to the Free State capital with his cavalry from Thaba Nchu without having engaged any of the Boer columns reported to be trekking northward from the Orange River. General Olivier's commando was last reported on the Basutoland frontier, near Wepener, and now that General French has withdrawn from the chase the Boer commandant's chances of escape are vastly improved.

The three delegates from the Transvaal are expected to arrive at Naples before the end of the month, and a telegram to "The Mail" says that they will visit Berlin, Brussels and Paris, and finally go to New-York by way of Antwerp.

I. N. F.

BOERS READY TO RESIST.

THEIR FORTIFICATIONS EXTENDED—PLAN OF FINAL CAMPAIGN.

[Copyright; 1900: By The New-York Tribune.]
[BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.]

London, March 27, 1 a. m.—The War Office has been silent for twenty-four hours, and the press dispatches add little to the sum of public knowledge respecting the campaign. There are rumors that the Boers are intrenching heavily at Kroonstad and Biggarsberg, and that Lord Roberts and Sir Redvers Buller will be strongly opposed, and Pretoria dispatches assert that the fortifications there have been extended in view of a prolonged siege.

These reports are not accepted by military experts here as conclusive evidence that the war will be prolonged beyond the middle of May. It is believed that Lord Roberts, when he is prepared to advance, will be able to turn the enemy's position without attacking it in front, and that the intrenching now in progress will be of no practical utility. General Buller's operations may be more costly, as the country in which he will operate is most unfavorable for an attack. The reasons for the long halt at Bloemfontein and at Ladysmith are not understood, but it is evident that there will be cooperation between the two forces, and it is also probable that the third column, from Mafeking, will be available.

The strength of the Boers in the final campaign in the Transvaal is estimated by cool observers at 15,000, but these figures are considered too low by the military authorities here. They assume that President Krüger will have 30,000 burghers in arms for the fighting in the last ditch. This official estimate is not based upon the census or the election returns, but provides a more impressive background for the British operations with an army of 200,000 men.

Cecil Rhodes's controversies with the military authorities have armed his enemies with resources for renewing their warfare upon him when he arrives in England. His friends regret some of his indiscretions and are disposed to criticise him for telling much superfluous truth about the management of the campaign by Generals Buller and Methuen.

Parliament is mainly occupied with financial measures, and the debates are stagnant. Mr. Balfour agreed yesterday to the appointment of a committee of inquiry respecting the alleged scandals in the army contracts, but the evidence is not strong, and it is not probable that the War Office will be convinced of any serious mismanagement of the immense business transacted since September.

I. N. F.

MAFEKING'S CHANCE OF RELIEF.

THREE BRITISH COLUMNS IN THE FIELD—BOER OUTPOSTS ACTIVE.

London, March 27.—Military observers here, and even those in close touch with the War Office, are considerably confused as to what is being done for the succor of Mafeking. Some 5,000 or 6,000 men are engaged with Lord Methuen at Warrenton and Fourteen Streams, and now another column is about leaving Kimberley.

Boer horsemen are in contact with the British outposts from Biggarsberg to Warrenton.

General Buller's patrols had a sharp skirmish on Sunday at Waschbank.

Lord Roberts's infantry forces have now been quiet for fourteen days, and news of an advance is hourly expected at the War Office.

THE MAINE'S HUMANE WORK.

MAJOR CABELL'S TRIBUTE TO EFFICIENCY OF AMERICAN HOSPITAL SHIP.

London, March 26.—Major J. M. Cabell, former chief surgeon of the American hospital ship Maine, is now in London, on his way back to Columbia Hospital, Washington, his leave of absence having expired. In an interview to-day he said:

Nothing could have exceeded the hospitality and warmth with which the American doctors, nurses and attendants were received in South Africa. The stories of internal dissensions on the Maine are quite unbased. Lady Randolph Churchill antagonized no one. On the contrary, it was owing to her tact that several little threatened annoyances were avoided. She wished the Maine to stay at the seat of warfare, and I agreed with her, but it had been arranged by the British Army authorities that she was to leave after the relief of Ladysmith, and, though Lady Randolph believed this action would diminish the ship's sphere of usefulness, she was too good a disciplinarian and diplomat to question the decision of the commander-in-chief. Another reason prompting the sending of the Maine home is that the troop ships returning are not well equipped to take wounded soldiers. The British Government is much behind our own in this respect, for, while the hospital ships at Manila and at Cuba were able to transfer the wounded to transports and remain on the scene of action, those in South African waters must needs return with their human cargoes.

We were very fortunate on the Maine with cases. Only one man died before I left, and I believe this number has not been increased since. Perhaps our most remarkable case was that of an officer of the Gordon Highlanders, who was shot clean through the brain, and who completely recovered on board the American hospital ship.

Mauser wounds in the intestines, which from the Springfield or Remington would surely have been fatal, healed up without operation. I had seen some similar cases in the Philippine Islands, and avoided operations upon such wounds with complete success, the Mauser wound being so clean and small that it heals better when left alone.

I saw no traces of explosive bullets, and I believe that the reports that the Boers are using such bullets are greatly exaggerated. From my experiences in Manila and South Africa I believe it is almost impossible to distinguish between the explosive bullet and that of the ordinary Mauser when the latter is fired at point blank range.

Perhaps I should not say it, but the Maine was undoubtedly the best fitted hospital ship down there. Everything that it was possible to provide to make the wounded comfortable had been provided. The British army and navy men were loud in their praises of the ship, and Lord Roberts spoke most highly of her. But perhaps bluff Captain Chichester (Sir Edward Chichester, formerly captain of the British cruiser Immortalité, the British flagship at Manila during the troublesome times there), in good humoredly addressing the nurses and saying he found out a few things about Americans at Manila, impressed us the most.

I much regretted leaving the ship, but my leave is up and I had to come home.

The Maine will return to South Africa immediately after landing her wounded here.

MANY COMMISSIONS TO BE GIVEN.

London, March 26.—In the course of a reply to a question on the subject in the House of Commons to-day the Parliamentary Secretary of the War Office, George Wyndham, announced that it was proposed to give a total of 276 commissions in the army to the colonies and fifty to Lord Roberts for distribution to the forces in the field.

REBELS FORCED TO JOIN BOERS.

Barkly West, March 26.—A commando of four hundred Boers has reoccupied Papkuel, forcing the rebels in the Herbert district to rejoin the Federal flag. Extensive looting is reported in that direction.

STEYN RELUCTANT TO FLEE.

London, March 27.—The Bloemfontein correspondent of "The Morning Post" telegraphing on Saturday says:

I learn that Mr. Steyn fled against his own judgment and on the persuasion of Mr. Fischer that duty to his country required that he should remain uncaptured as long as resistance was possible.

A PLEA FOR THE REBELS.

London, March 27.—Winston Churchill, in a dispatch this morning from Cape Town, again urges a generous and forgiving policy toward the rebels, instead of yielding to the demands of the Loyalists for severe treatment. He says:

The Dutch traitor is less black than the renegade British-born burgher, but both are the results of our own mistakes and of crimes in Africa in former years. Unless actually caught fighting, rebels should be treated with the utmost leniency and generosity.

ROBERTS'S DELAY EXPLAINED.

London, March 26.—The continued lack of aggressive movement on the part of the British is best explained in a dispatch from Bloemfontein dated Sunday, March 25, and published in the second edition of "The Times" to-day. It says:

The conditions existing in the occupied territory render imperative the somewhat prolonged halt at Bloemfontein. It is necessary that the effect of the proclamation should have time to make itself felt. It is declared that danger of annoyance to the line of communication may be apprehended unless the territory behind the advancing forces is rendered absolutely secure. The accuracy of this view is proved by the fact of the enemy's breaking up into isolated groups, such as that which attacked the Guards' officers on Friday. The adjustment of financial and municipal matters in the Free State is now chiefly occupying the attention of the Governor and his legal and financial advisers. The military regime is being conducted with great smoothness, but recent investigations show that caution must be exercised in dealing with persons apparently loyal.

A Lourenço Marques dispatch says the Transvaal authorities are evidently recruiting actively, as large numbers of French, Dutch and Belgian volunteers are constantly passing through that place to join the Boer forces.

MISSIONARIES DEFEND ENGLAND.

Ocean Grove, N. J., March 26 (Special).—"Providence is using England to bring about His will," was the testimony of three African missionaries regarding the Boer-British War, at the New-Brunswick District Methodist Preachers' meeting to-day in St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church. The declaration was made by Amos Withey, William Dodson and Ernest Withey, preachers of Angola, Africa. They said there was no republican form of government in the Boer States, but, on the contrary, the worst kind of an oligarchy. The Boers were described as "narrow, egotistical and religious fanatics."

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO DUBLIN.

MR. PARNELL NOT TO PRESENT THE KEYS TO HER MAJESTY.

London, March 27.—John Parnell, brother of the famous Irish statesman, is city marshal of Dublin, and in this capacity it would devolve upon him to present the keys of the city to the Queen on her forthcoming visit. As he might feel some awkwardness in executing this duty, it has been arranged that he shall carry the keys on a cushion to the Lord Mayor of Dublin, who will take them for presentation to Her Majesty.

DR. HILLIS AND PRESBYTERIANISM.

Chicago, March 26 (Special).—"How any man can hold the ecclesiastical position which Dr. Hillis holds and put forth the utterances which are recorded in the published report of his sermon of yesterday, and still claim to be an honest man, is a problem in ethics I cannot solve," was the climax to a criticism of Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis's arraignment of the Presbyterian creed made by his old professor, who taught the well known preacher his theology at the McCormick Theological Seminary, Dr. D. C. Marquis, of the chair of New Testament Exegesis.

Dr. Hillis's old professors at the Theological Seminary, from which he was graduated thirteen years ago, were as outspoken in their attacks on Dr. Hillis to-day as the Brooklyn minister was excoriating in his arraignment of the Presbyterian creed yesterday. Dr. Herrick Johnson, head of the seminary; Dr. A. C. Zenos, professor of Biblical Theology, and Dr. Wills G. Craig, of the chair of Systematic Theology, charged their former pupil with inconsistency and insincerity at least, if not with dishonesty and dishonorableness, in the sudden change of religious tenets with which Dr. Hillis has startled the country. It was noticeable, however, that Dr. Hillis's change of views, which has fallen on Presbyterian circles in general like a thunderbolt from a clear sky, did not cause the heads of the Theological Seminary great surprise.

It was a move which many of Dr. Hillis's old professors evidently were expecting, and it is said that much correspondence has already passed between the Brooklyn clergyman and Dr. Johnson, head of the seminary, relative to the intended disclosure of a change of faith on the part of Dr. Hillis. It is also asserted that this correspondence has been of an interesting and calorific nature, and has given the heads of the seminary something more than a mere intimation that Dr. Hillis would announce his repudiation of the Presbyterian creed.

Matters are complicated by the fact that Dr. Hillis is still a member of the Chicago Presbytery, though it was the unanimous expression of opinion that he contemplated immediate withdrawal. If he does not formally withdraw in the near future his utterances are such that he will be tried for heresy, and punitive action will result.

The Rev. Dr. Hillis said last evening: "I haven't heard directly of this matter. It has come to me indirectly, however. If any member of the Chicago Presbytery thinks I am not doing my duty I shall withdraw. At present I place but little credence in the rumor, and shall take no action unless I hear something officially."

DR. G. S. BAKER RETIRES.

MADE PASTOR EMERITUS OF ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL—REPORTS OF TROUBLES DECLARED TO HAVE BEEN EXAGGERATED.

The Rev. Dr. George S. Baker, who has for twenty-three years been in the service of St. Luke's Hospital and has been pastor and superintendent of the hospital for twenty-two years of this time, will retire from active service on May 1. Hereafter he will act in the capacity of pastor emeritus for the institution at a salary of $2,000 a year. Announcement of this was made after a meeting of the Board of Managers of the hospital which was held yesterday afternoon.

Dr. Baker wrote a letter to the Board explaining his reasons for wishing to retire. He said that he had grown old in the service, that the hospital had meanwhile grown in size and activity, and that an institution of such wide and complicated scope as St. Luke's Hospital should be managed by a younger man, who could give more energetic and personal attention to the many details arising. The hospital was now in a most flourishing condition, he said, and he thought the time propitious for his relief. He did not send in his resignation, but asked permission to retire, at the pleasure of the Board. The Board took the matter under careful consideration and decided to acquiesce with Dr. Baker's wishes and arrange for his retirement. They further agreed to reward him for his long and faithful service by appointing him pastor emeritus at a salary of $2,000 a year.

"Dr. Baker told us that he was in poor health and that he was becoming too old to attend to the increasing duties of his post as he should attend to them," said Hoffman Miller, secretary of the hospital, last night. "We acquiesced, and that is all there was to it."

The report that friction among different members of the hospital staff had led to Dr. Baker's retirement was guardedly denied by Mr. Miller.

"The Board of Managers knows of no such friction," he said, "and if anybody ought to know of such things we ought."

But Mr. Miller would not say that there had been no trouble in the working of the hospital.

"Those reports are greatly exaggerated—a tempest in a teapot," he said.

Whether the internal troubles in St. Luke's Hospital have been big or little, it is certain that there have been troubles of some sort. One story had it that Mrs. Quintard, the superintendent of nurses, had caused ill feeling by showing favoritism to the Canadian nurses in the hospital at the expense of the American nurses. Mrs. Quintard resigned about a month ago and went to a hospital in Cuba. Miss Mitchell, her assistant, resigned at the same time, as did also seven or eight nurses. It was pretty generally understood that these resignations were the culmination of a situation that had been steadily growing more strained for some time.

"Did the Board of Managers accept Mrs. Quintard's resignation?" Mr. Miller was asked.

"Yes, we accepted her resignation," he said.

"What reasons did she give for resigning?"

"We do not know the reasons."

"Then you accepted the resignation without any knowledge of her reasons for the step, and without any further inquiry in the matter? The superintendent of nurses simply asked to go and went? Everyday, unimportant affair?"

"We do not know the reasons," said Mr. Miller.

The report that these happenings in the life of the hospital were considered so unfortunate that they had something to do with the retirement of Dr. Baker as pastor and superintendent of the hospital was denied by Dr. Baker last night. He admitted frankly, however, that there had been some trouble in the staff of the hospital.

"There were some mistakes," he said, "as there will be at times in the running of any large institution. They were unfortunate, and we were sorry that they happened, but they have been rectified and smoothed over, the gaps have been closed up, and the hospital is now running along in first class shape. They never amounted to much and the report of friction between the Canadian and the American nurses is not true. No such thing as that ever troubled us.

"But I can truthfully say that these little matters had nothing to do with my retirement. I was getting too old for the place, my health was not good, and I thought that it was time for me to stop. Perhaps these little troubles brought home to me the fact that St. Luke's had been growing and expanding since I became its superintendent twenty-two years ago, and that I had at the same time been growing older until I could not quite keep up with the pace. But my retirement would have come soon, anyhow. I am not feeling well, and I want very much to go to Europe this summer and have a rest."

Dr. Baker was asked as to the exact "troubles" which rumor had ascribed to the hospital.

"I would rather not say," he said. "They were a small affair, I tell you sincerely, and I do not see why they should interest the public. They are all over now, and everything is running smoothly."

THEATRE CLOSED AT MANILA.

SEDITIOUS DRAMA CAUSED ARREST OF MANAGER AND PLAYWRIGHT.

Manila, March 26.—While a seditious play entitled "For Love of Country" was given in the Tagalog language at the Tagalog theatre, the natives, under the influence of repeated references to independence, became disorderly, and finally, carried away at the sight of the rebel flag on the stage, they cried "Vive Filipinos!" and "Vive Aguinaldo!" The police, who were summoned, restored order, and arrested the manager of the theatre and the author of the play. The latter is the proprietor of a Tagalog newspaper, which was recently warned to moderate its radical utterances. The American authorities had forbidden the production of the play.

CONDEMNS GOVERNOR TYLER.

HE SHOULD HAVE PREVENTED VIRGINIA DOUBLE LYNCHING, SAYS A RICHMOND PREACHER.

Richmond, Va., March 26 (Special).—The failure of Governor Tyler to prevent the horrible lynching at Emporia on Saturday is being condemned all over the State. Yesterday several of the ministers here referred to the subject. Professor S. C. Mitchell, of the Latin chair at the Richmond College, excoriated Governor Tyler in a sermon delivered at the Second Baptist Church. Professor Mitchell is a son-in-law of the Rev. Dr. Broadus, one of the most distinguished Baptist ministers in the South. Dr. Mitchell is regarded as an exceedingly conservative man. Referring to Governor Tyler's failure to declare martial law and save the wretches at Emporia Professor Mitchell said:

This act was criminal incapacity. That act compels the good people of this Commonwealth to condemn his name forever to political oblivion. He has cut out work for the Legislature to do. But the Executive, in that lame defence, says this statute applies only in case martial law is proclaimed. Was there ever in the history of Virginia a situation that more clearly demanded martial law than that? Will there ever be? His own officer telegraphs him: "Without protection the prisoner will be lynched to-night." He commands that officer to withdraw protection from the prisoner. Then hellish passions were let loose; the lynching of Cotton occurred with diabolical glee; a lull in the whites' vengeance; the blacks bestir themselves; O'Grady is dragged forth.

APPEARS AS HE IS TO BE DECLARED DEAD.

Terre Haute, Ind., March 26.—The Circuit Court room to-day was the scene of a sensation when Frank C. Mallory, whose divorced wife's relatives were beginning suit to have him declared dead, walked in and interrupted the proceedings. Mallory had been missing for more than five years, and under the law he could be declared dead and his estate forfeited. Further litigation in the case is to be instituted.

BOTH SIDES STAND FIRM

ALL PUERTO RICAN LEGISLATION MAY FAIL.

NO AGREEMENT ON THE TARIFF REACHED IN CAUCUS—HARMONY COMMITTEE DISCHARGED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, March 26.—The Republican members of the Senate held a caucus this afternoon in an effort to reach an agreement on the Puerto Rican legislation now pending in the Senate. After remaining in session more than two hours, with constantly diminishing numbers toward the last, it was decided not to separate the tariff bill from the civil government provisions, but to continue the consideration of both as a whole in the hope of obtaining a vote on the amalgamated measure at some indefinite time in the future. The Harmony Committee was discharged from further service. It is understood that this decision, such as it was, was reached when less than one-third of the Republican membership of the Senate was present. It was also informally agreed or understood that the tariff provisions were to be amended so as to authorize the President to suspend their operation whenever and as soon as the Puerto Rican Legislature hereafter to be created should have provided other adequate means of raising revenue sufficient for the support of the Insular Government; and also that the foodstuffs, agricultural and sugar machinery and implements and other articles now exempted from payment of duties by Executive order should continue to be so exempted under the proposed tariff. Of course, however, no understanding was reached which would debar any Senator from offering or supporting any amendments he might desire to the House provisions and having them voted on.

A motion offered by Senator Gallinger at an early stage of the proceedings, declaring as the sense of the conference that the House bill should be brought to a direct vote without amendment, provoked considerable discussion and bitter opposition from Senators Davis, Proctor and others, and was not adopted.

CHANCES OF LEGISLATION DECREASED.

Accounts vary as to what actually occurred, and Senators who were present differ as to what conclusions, if any, were reached, but the foregoing appears to be in the main an accurate statement of what took place. It indicates that the majority in the Senate is as much at sea as ever, because all the accounts show that no agreement for the taking of a final vote on the amalgamated bill was reached. Fears were expressed by several cool headed Senators to-night that the prospect of any legislation whatever for the settlement, even temporarily, of the Puerto Rican question was dimmer than before the conference was held, and one prominent Representative bluntly expressed the opinion that "if the Senate should pass and send such a bill to the House of Representatives it would stand about as much chance there as a one legged grasshopper in a turkey coop."

In the House the advent of such a bill would immediately create a peculiar and not very hopeful parliamentary situation. By virtue of the rule creating it, the Insular Affairs Committee has no jurisdiction of questions relating to revenues and taxation, that being specifically reserved for the Ways and Means Committee, which is the one having sole jurisdiction of those subjects. The Insular Committee itself is engaged, through a sub-committee of the majority, in perfecting a bill providing a civil government for Puerto Rico. No attempt, of course, has been made in this measure to deal with matters affecting taxation and revenues, and the bill differs radically in other respects from the one now pending in the Senate. These facts suggest difficulties and complications which may and undoubtedly will arise if the Senate passes a bill which is not wholly subject to the jurisdiction of any one committee in the House of Representatives. Besides, it may be several weeks—some Senators say six weeks, others four weeks and others a fortnight—before the Senate can dispose of the matter in any form, and this delay will seriously endanger the prospects of the measure in the House.

On the whole, the situation and prospects do not seem to-night to promise any more Puerto Rican legislation at this session, unless the majority in the Senate shall be able to pull itself together much better than it did in to-day's conference. Senator Foraker, however, still appears to be hopeful, and he expressed the opinion to-night that the amalgamated bill would be brought to a vote before the end of this week, and that it would then be passed by a safe majority.

If it should fail to become law, of course, Puerto Rican products imported into the United States would continue to be subject to the full Dingley rates of duty, and the Executive free list would continue to apply to imports into Puerto Rico from all countries, unless President McKinley should abolish it.

NEITHER SIDE DISPOSED TO YIELD.

While good feeling was generally manifested, and all Senators who spoke expressed themselves as desirous of reaching an amicable understanding, there was little or no disposition manifested to yield a point which would produce that result. Indeed, the free traders on the one hand and the tariff men on the other were as obdurate as they had been at the previous meeting. This condition of affairs was made so manifest that Senator Allison, acting as chairman of the caucus, declared at the close of the meeting that there was no necessity for putting a motion to continue on past lines, as it was evident that no other course was practicable. Senator Foraker was instructed to press the Puerto Rican bill as it now stood, the governmental bill incorporated with the tariff measure, to as speedy a vote as possible. The vote by which this instruction was given was taken viva voce, no record being made, but it was evident that a substantial majority approved the proposition.

There are several Senators who will oppose the bill even with the amendment recommended. They are, it is said, Messrs. Davis, Beveridge, Hoar, Wellington, Mason, Simon, Proctor and Nelson. It is also said that Senators Kyle, who heretofore has acted with the Republicans, and McCumber, of North Dakota, will not vote for the House bill unamended, but it is believed they will vote for the amended proposition. Two Senators named in the list of eight first given are claimed by the friends of the tariff measure as almost sure to vote for the amended bill, leaving six Republicans who will vote finally against the measure. It is said that two or three votes will be secured for the tariff measure from the ranks of the opposition. Apparently there was no disposition among the free trade Senators present at the caucus to delay a vote on the bill, though no agreement was reached for an immediate vote.

SENATOR FORAKER'S STATEMENT.

Among the Senators who addressed the caucus were Messrs. Foraker, Allison, Cullom, Chandler, Gallinger, Quarles, Davis, Wellington and Lodge. The proceedings were opened with a statement by Senator Foraker detailing the proceedings of the Harmony Committee. He told at length of the efforts of the committee to secure concessions from representatives of all factions, and of the conferences with members of the House Ways and Means Committee, and also recited the various amendments which had been suggested with a view to securing harmony. He said that with reference to each and all of these amendments objections were met from one source or another. The free trade element were apparently irreconcilably opposed to the House tariff measure, while leading Republicans of the House had assured the committee that any amendment of the House bill would endanger the measure at that end of the Capitol.

In view of this condition of affairs in the House, Mr. Foraker expressed the opinion that it would be wise to pass the House bill without modification, and he appealed eloquently to all elements to unite for this purpose with a determination to pass the Civil Government bill as a separate measure and with such amendments as would concede much that the free traders sought to secure. Among the amendments looking to this end which he recited as possible of enactment was one for the continuation of the President's free list, which would practically secure the admission of all necessaries such as breadstuffs and clothing into Puerto Rico free of duty. This arrangement would meet the demands of the poorer classes. He also suggested the possibility of an amendment leaving the Puerto Rican authorities, to be constituted by the Civil Government bill, to say when any duty which might be imposed should be removed. These and other amendments would, however, he said, necessarily go on the Civil Government bill because of the probable unwillingness of the House to accept modifications of its tariff measure.

Senator Gallinger offered a resolution directing the separation of the House Tariff bill from the Senate governmental bill, and supported the resolution with a speech. This move was met by a counter resolution offered by Senator Wellington providing for the passage of the civil government bill with a free trade provision instead of the tariff provision of the House.

The discussion proceeded on the basis of these two motions. No new points of importance were brought out. The free traders expressed themselves as desirous of securing party harmony, but intimated plainly that to do so it would be necessary to come to their terms, because, as they said, of their conviction that the imposition of any duty meant material losses to the Republican party in next fall's election.

MR. DAVIS EXPLAINS HIS BILL.

Senator Davis read and explained at some length the substitute introduced by him in the Senate to-day providing for raising the necessary revenue by a purely internal revenue system. He quoted figures from Governor-General Davis in support of his position that the internal revenue system would be sufficient to meet the demands for revenue for the conduct of the government of the island. He said there was a feeling throughout the country for free trade with Puerto Rico, and that this feeling was not a mere ephemeral sentiment, but was based on a proper demand for right and justice.

Senator Cullom spoke in a conciliatory manner, indicating a personal leaning toward the free trade sentiment, but giving it as his opinion that an agreement should be reached on some basis which would present a solid front.

Senator Quarles made an impassioned appeal for the enactment of a tariff law, saying that only by this course could the best traditions of the Republican party be maintained. Both resolutions were ultimately withdrawn—Senator Wellington's because of the impossibility of passing it, and Senator Gallinger's because it was not considered wise to press it to a vote in view of the determined opposition of the free trade element.

DISCHARGE OF HARMONY COMMITTEE.

On Senator Chandler's motion the Harmony Committee was discharged from further service. He referred to the fact that some of the leaders who are generally appointed on compromise committees had not served on this committee, and called attention to the fact that the caucus had found it impossible to agree on any of the suggestions made by the committee, and to the further fact that it had failed to accomplish the end for which it was appointed, that of reconciling the various elements of the party. He then moved the discharge of the committee, and the motion prevailed without opposition.

It was not until almost the close of the meeting that Senator Lodge offered a resolution expressing the sense of the caucus that there should be no present effort to separate the governmental and tariff features of the bill, and that the discussion should continue on the old lines for the present. Senator Allison remarked that this was so evidently the sense of the conference that there was hardly a necessity for taking a vote, and the caucus adjourned sine die.

DELAGOA BAY ARBITRATION.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT HEARS THE AWARD WILL BE MADE ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF APRIL.

Washington, March 26.—The State Department to-day received information from an unofficial but trustworthy source to the effect that the Delagoa Bay award would be made about the middle of April. It is said at the Department that it will not be possible for the arbitrators, if they follow out the terms of the arbitration agreement, to avoid a division of the amount of the award among the claimants, as has been intimated in the Berne dispatches, and it is believed that there is a misunderstanding on that point.

PORTUGAL NOT TO BORROW MONEY.

London, March 26.—It is learned that Portugal is prepared to meet the Delagoa Bay award without borrowing money. Current reports that Great Britain intended lending the Portuguese Government money in exchange for privileges at Delagoa and Beira are declared to be absolutely incorrect. The British Government has received no intimation in regard to the award to-day, and has no idea of its terms or when they will be announced, though it hopes to receive this information in the present week.

The same condition of affairs in regard to the award prevails at the American Embassy, where the securities of the claimants are deposited. On all sides it is said that the long delay in reaching a decision has had the most serious effect upon the principle of arbitration.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

Philadelphia, March 26.—Mayor Ashbridge to-day announced that the third $25,000 to be raised by this city for the Republican National Convention is now in hand, and will be forwarded in a few days. The work of raising the fourth and final $25,000 has been started.

Owosso, Mich., March 26.—Charles Scott, a boilermaker employed in the Ann Arbor Railroad car shops, last night broke into the home of his wife, from whom he had been separated, and assaulted Mrs. Scott and her mother with a heavy chisel. He then drew a revolver and shot himself dead. Mrs. Scott is fatally, and her mother, Mrs. Letitia Ferguson, seriously, injured.

Altoona, Penn., March 26.—The Altoona Coal and Coke Company, the Henrietta Coal Mining Company and the Frugality Coal and Coke Company, all of this city, have informed their miners of a general advance in wages of 20 per cent, to take effect on April 1. None of the companies were represented at the recent joint conference of miners and operators, and the increase is voluntary. Five thousand miners will benefit by the advance.

San Francisco, March 26.—Within a week the battleship Wisconsin, now almost completed by the Union Iron Works, will go out on a series of trial trips. The vessel's machinery has long been completed, and it has had several tests. The heavy guns of her batteries are in place and mounted, the last four 13-inch guns being placed last week. So far all the working parts of the warship have given complete satisfaction to her builders, and it is expected that she will be fully up to the standard of the battleship Oregon.

ONLY A FEW STEPS

From any one of twenty hotels to Grand Central Station, where trains are leaving almost every hour for Buffalo, Chicago, St. Louis or Cincinnati, by the New York Central. Trains illuminated by Pintsch Light.—Advt.

MORGAN BILL AMENDED.

RESULT OF MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION'S FIGHT AGAINST RAMAPO.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR—WATERSHEDS SPECIFIED—"ROVING COMMISSION" BUGABOO REMOVED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Albany, March 26.—The Merchants' Association of New-York came before Governor Roosevelt with a large number of engineers to-day, who have been surveying the available sources of water supply for New-York City, and exhibited maps showing the result of this survey. The maps also indicated that New-York City, despite the Ramapo Water Company, could obtain a water supply in certain Adirondack counties, in the Catskill Mountain region and in the Ramapo River region, in Rockland and Orange counties.

As the result of this inspection of the maps the representatives of the Merchants' Association drew up a bill indicating three watersheds from which New-York may take water, and the bill of Assemblyman Morgan now before the Assembly was amended so as to give New-York City the right to take water from any one of these watersheds. Whether the bill will pass at this late hour in the session is problematical.

The provisions of the new measure have been drawn with the special purpose of meeting the outcry raised against the original bill by the up-State members. These objections were based on the idea that if the charter of New-York was so amended as to give the right of eminent domain and the power to condemn unused lands for water purposes, as the original Morgan bill provided, there would arise a roving commission, which might prove a menace to the country districts. As the bill now stands, it applies only to a belt of eleven counties extending northward along the western side of the Hudson River as far as the Adirondacks.

The bill provides that this belt shall be divided into three groups. The use of one of these will exclude the other two. The Legislature, accordingly, is to decide which one is to be chosen. Accordingly the first group is to include Rockland and Orange counties, the second Albany, Schoharie, Greene, Delaware and Ulster counties, and the third, or Adirondack region, the counties of Essex, Hamilton, Warren, Fulton and Saratoga.

CERTAIN LAKES EXEMPT.

In relation to the last group, however, the bill expressly stipulates that the Commissioner of Water Supply of New-York is forbidden to select as such a source of water supply Lake George, Lake Champlain or any of their tributaries, the Mohawk or its tributaries.

The bill further provides for the transportation of water through intermediate counties. To this end, therefore, the city of New-York is to have the right to acquire by condemnation lands for such purposes in any other county or counties through which it may be necessary to pass in conducting waters to the city.

To protect the land of the people of whatever district the people of New-York shall choose to select as a water source there is a special provision. This clause was also contained in the former bill, but seemed to be overlooked by those who said they were so afraid of a "roving commission." According to this provision the city of New-York shall not have power to acquire or extinguish the water rights, in actual use at the time of the initiation of proceedings of condemnation, either for the supply of the waterworks of any other city or village, or which in the opinion of the court on such proceedings may reasonably become necessary for such a supply.

The last section of the amended bill reads as follows:

Nothing in this section contained, shall be deemed in any manner to limit or affect the rights, property rights, power, or jurisdiction now possessed by the city of New-York in relation to the possession, maintenance, operation or completion of its present water system.

CONFERENCE WITH THE GOVERNOR.

The Governor expressed his approval of the bill after an extended conference with a delegation from the Merchants' Association this morning. The delegation consisted of Rudolph Hering, E. P. North, D. McN. Stauffer and E. E. Olcott; James H. Fuertes, the expert engineer employed by the Sub-Committee on Engineering to investigate the sources of future water supply for the city; John M. Perry, of the Sub-Committee on Legislation; M. E. Bannin, chairman of the General Committee on Water Supply; Assemblyman J. H. Morgan, who introduced the bill known by his name; William F. King, president of the Merchants' Association; S. Cristy Mead, assistant secretary of the Merchants' Association, and who is also secretary of the Committee on Water Supply; Frederick B. De Berard, who is assistant to the chairman of the Water Supply Committee, and secretary of the Sub-Committee on Engineering, and N. Flanter and William P. Corwine, of the Merchants' Association.

Senator Krum, of Schoharie County, and Senator Brown, of Jefferson County, happened to be in the executive chamber at the time. Senator Brown expressed himself as in favor of the bill.

In speaking of which group of counties the Legislature would doubtless select, Mr. De Berard, a member of the Merchants' Association, said:

"It is my opinion that the middle circle of counties is preferable. This comprises the counties of Albany, Schoharie, Greene, Delaware and Ulster. In this district there is enough waste water to supply the city. This water comes down the mountains in times of freshet, and now pours in great volumes into the Hudson River. Instead, this can be stored in reservoirs and used as the needs of New-York City demand. In such it would be necessary to filter the water, as it would be muddied from rushing over mountain channels."

The representatives of Greene and Schoharie counties in the Assembly are both in favor of the Morgan bill. They are Assemblymen Sage and Frisbie.

The new bill of Assemblyman Morgan was framed in the executive chamber, which presented a picturesque appearance at noon. There was a big table in the centre of the room, and upon this were spread out a dozen large maps of the counties of New-York along the watershed of the Hudson River.

Governor Roosevelt and a group of members of the Merchants' Association and engineers stood about these maps closely examining them. Certain territory on the maps was marked off with bright colored inks, and thus the watersheds desired were indicated. At Governor Roosevelt's own special table, Assemblyman Morgan was busy writing in amendments to his bill which had met with the approval of Governor Roosevelt and the members of the Merchants' Association and their engineers, defining the watersheds to be taken.

Governor Roosevelt informed the newspaper correspondents when they were admitted to what had hitherto been a secret conference that the men of the Merchants' Association had come to Albany with eminent engineers and had pointed out by means of the maps displayed that the search of New-York for additional supplies of water could be "localized" by providing that New-York should only take water either from the Adirondack region, the Catskill Mountain region or the Ramapo region.

LOCALIZATION PLAN.

The Governor frankly said he thought this "localization" scheme would meet the objection of those rural members of the Legislature who objected to New-York having a "roving commission" to take water anywhere in the State. The Governor added that he would like to call special attention to a map indicating that there were two hundred companies of a private nature