

BOERS GROWING BOLDER THEY ARE PRESSING CLOSER AROUND BLOEMFONTEIN.

AN ENCIRCLING MOVEMENT ABOUT GENERAL ROBERTS'S CAMP BELIEVED TO BE IN PROGRESS.

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London, April 5, 6 a. m.—Intelligence published this morning points to the resumption of Boer activity at places so far apart as Wepener, on the Basutoland border, and Springfontein, the important junction of the railway lines from Bethulle and Norval's Pont. The force which captured the convoy on Saturday is not likely to give the British army much rest, and "The Standard" correspondent at Bloemfontein states that an encircling movement is being attempted by the Boers with the object of cutting the British communications to the south. Thaba Nchu and the waterworks are still held by the federal troops.

General Gatacre has been entrusted by General Roberts with the care of the British line of communications, while Generals Colville and French are at Bloemfontein, and General Tucker remains with the Seventh Division at Kamek Siding.

"The Mail" publishes a telegram showing how Colonel Porter, by brilliant handling of his small force of cavalry and horse artillery, succeeded in rescuing on Sunday eleven officers and eighty men who had been captured in the affair of the convoy near the Bloemfontein waterworks on the previous day. It is a matter of great significance, and was a consequence, apparently, of the increased daring of the Boers. Numbers of Free Staters who had given in their submission under General Roberts's proclamation have since taken alarm and are rejoining the federal ranks.

"The Times" reports in Bloemfontein records the intention of the Governor to raise a local police force for the outlying districts. This will be open to volunteers from all the colonial contingents. On March 27 Mafeking was still holding out but hoping for speedy relief.

THE PERIL OF THE PRINCE.

BRITISH PEOPLE IN A FERMENT OVER THE BRUSSELS INCIDENT—WAR NEWS MEAGRE.

(Copyright, 1900, By The New-York Tribune.) [BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.]

London, April 5, 1 a. m.—Intense excitement has been aroused by the news of the attempted assassination of the Prince of Wales at the Nord Railway Station, in Brussels. At first there was a general tendency to discredit the report, but when it was officially confirmed by a notice posted at the Mansion House last night the utmost indignation was expressed, more especially as it was felt that the outrage was attributable to the anti-English agitation on the Continent, which has become so pronounced since the outbreak of war in South Africa, and which has been fostered by foul articles which have for months past disgraced the columns of the Belgian press. Even the leading newspapers of Brussels have not hesitated to publish scurrilous articles in abuse of England and the English. The minds of the Belgian people have also been poisoned by some of the gutter prints from Paris. The "Petit Journal," which suffers from chronic Anglophobia, enjoys a large circulation throughout Belgium, while the notorious caricatures of "La Rive" which have been stopped by the police in Paris, still find ready sale in Brussels and Antwerp. The young apprentice who desired to murder the Prince of Wales because of the action of the British Government in South Africa, was no doubt unaware of the fact that His Royal Highness was about as much responsible for the Boer war as was the Shah of Persia.

When the news of the outrage spreads throughout the country this morning the feeling that will be paramount will be one of thankfulness, not only for the escape of the Prince, but also for the fact that the Queen is not this year paying a visit to the south of France, as in view of the bitter anti-English feeling prevalent among the bulk of the French people to-day, there would, in spite of the utmost precautions of the Government in Paris, have been great anxiety for the safety of the venerable sovereign.

The only news received from General Roberts yesterday was a list of further casualties in Saturday's action. Altogether the losses among the British officers in action near the Bloemfontein waterworks amounted, so far as our knowledge at present goes, to three killed, fifteen wounded and fourteen missing. The rank and the casualty list is not yet announced. It may now be taken for granted that the attempt to recover the guns and convey loss on Saturday has been abandoned, for the time being, at all events, as Colville's division and French's cavalry have returned to Bloemfontein.

FRAGMENTS OF WAR NEWS.

GENERALS FRENCH AND COLVILLE RETURN TO BLOEMFONTEIN.

London, April 4.—General Colville and General French have given up the movement against the Boers east of Bloemfontein, and have rejoined the main army. It doubtless seemed to Lord Roberts a vain thing to send from ten thousand to twelve thousand of his best troops into the wilderness, with a field transport, in the direction of a right angle with his chosen line of advance. And if to the southwest, General Colville could as easily strike them from Bloemfontein as by following them up across the plains. These inferences still leave the situation bewildering for the time being. The enormously superior British forces appear inactive in every part of the war field, waiting yet probably for the accumulation of material for a swift advance on

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SHOT AT PRINCE OF WALES.

ATTEMPT OF A YOUNG ANARCHIST TO KILL THE HEIR APPARENT.

FIRED TWICE AT THE PRINCE AS HE SAT WITH THE PRINCESS IN A RAILWAY CAR IN BRUSSELS.

Brussels, April 4.—The Prince and Princess of Wales started for Copenhagen from London this morning for the purpose of attending the celebration of King Christian's birthday, which occurs on April 8.

As their train was leaving the Northern Station, in this city, for the Southern Railroad Station, an individual fired a revolver twice at the Prince of Wales, but missed His Royal Highness.

The attempt occurred at 5:35 p. m. The would-be assassin jumped upon the footboard of the Prince's saloon car as the train was starting, and fired into the car, aiming at the Prince of Wales. The criminal was immediately arrested. He is a tinsmith named Spildo, a resident of Brussels, sixteen years of age. His pockets were found to be full of anarchist literature. The Princess of Wales and others were in the car, but no one was touched.

PREPARED FOR A THIRD SHOT.

Hearing the shots, the stationmaster rushed to the scene and knocked down Spildo's arm as he prepared to fire a third shot, and a number of persons threw themselves on the Prince's assailant.

In the confusion a second man, who was quite innocent, was seized, roughly handled and beaten.

After the Prince had ascertained that the man who fired the shots had been arrested, he declared himself and the Princess uninjured, and the train started.

Intense excitement prevailed for the moment, as it was feared the Prince had been hit, the shots having been fired almost point blank. The railway carriage door was hastily thrown open, and great relief was felt when the Prince himself appeared at the window unhurt.

Both the Prince and the Princess, however, had a very narrow escape. The policeman on duty took Spildo in charge. The latter appeared proud of his exploit and seemed quite calm. Spildo told the authorities that he lived on the Rue de la Forge, at Saint-Gilles, two miles south of Brussels.

When examined by the railroad station officials Spildo declared he intended to kill the Prince of Wales, that he did not regret his action, and that he was ready to do it again if he got a chance to do so.

Spildo subsequently said he wanted to kill the Prince of Wales "because he caused thousands of men to be slaughtered in South Africa."

An eye witness says that the train was already in motion, and when the engineer heard the pistol he shut off steam, applied the brakes and stopped the train. As the train restarted, after Spildo's arrest, the public loudly cheered the Prince, who acknowledged the demonstration from the car window.

An examination of Spildo's revolver showed that four chambers had been discharged, but that two of the cartridges had missed fire. The weapon is of the cheapest six chambered description, such as is usually sold here for three and a half francs.

THE CRIMINAL A YOUTH.

Spildo has a round, boyish face, black eyes and dark hair. At the examination before the magistrate it was ascertained that he had purchased a penny ticket in order to reach the departure platform, where he walked up and down quite awhile at the same time that the Prince was promenading.

Persons who attended the Maison du Peuple yesterday, where the extreme Anarchists met, say they heard Spildo declare that if the Prince of Wales came to Brussels he ought to have a bullet in his head; and they also heard him offer to bet five francs that he would fire at the Prince.

According to "Le Patriote" some news of the views expressed at the meeting referred to was conveyed to the stationmaster, who had taken what he thought were extra precautions. Spildo appeared at the station in his best clothing, having explained to his father that he was going to seek employment.

The Prince of Wales appeared quite unaffected by the incident. He asked whether the revolver was loaded, and, on being informed in the affirmative, smiled and begged that the culprit might not be treated too severely.

"La Gazette" attributes the following words to Spildo: "All I regret is that I did not kill this man, who, instead of disavowing Chamberlain in his inhuman policy, became his accomplice."

"La Gazette" adds that when taken to the prison at Saint-Gilles Spildo declared that he would have fired six shots if he had not been arrested.

"Le Vingtieme Siecle" says: "We deeply regret that the Prince of Wales has been the victim of an imbecile and odious attack. Under a pretext of condemning British policy, certain newspapers which never know when to keep their bounds, have attacked England and the reigning family. They now see the danger of those incitements."

Other papers express the hope that the incident "will not provoke fresh complications with Great Britain, which is not too friendly toward Belgium on account of the latter's pro-Boerism."

Several papers announce that a student who threw himself on Spildo had his hand injured in the scuffle.

Immediately after the attempt the Prince of Wales sent telegrams to the Queen and to the Duchess of York announcing his safety.

A dispatch from the Prince to the Duchess of Fife at Brighton ran thus: "A man jumped on the carriage just as we were departing. Fired pistol in the carriage. Believed it was not loaded. All well."

The Queen sent to Cologne a telegram congratulating her son on his happy escape.

Spildo has been connected for nearly a year with a band of young Socialists. It seems that he left his parents about 1:30 p. m. yesterday on the pretext of going to get an appointment.

Spildo has not been seen since, and the details of the affair from a journalist. Both parents assert that he never had a revolver before. His mother says the lad had lived a very regular life, and had been saving money to go to the Paris Exposition. She declares that if he is guilty he must have been instigated by others and was probably given too much to drink. He was fifteen last December.

Among the papers found upon him was an article from the French newspaper "L'Aurore."

"The Courrier de Bruxelles" says that all precautions were taken and that it had even been decided to shoot the royal train at Scherbroek if necessary, but there was no reason to believe that such precautions would be needed.

King Leopold has telegraphed the Prince of Wales an expression of regret, and the Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs has called upon the British Minister.

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QUEEN ENTERS DUBLIN.

DRIVES THROUGH MILES OF CHEERING SPECTATORS.

A STATELY SCENE WITH REPRODUCTION OF OLD TIME CEREMONY AT THE CITY GATES.

(Copyright, 1900, By The New-York Tribune.) [BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Dublin, April 4.—The union of hearts has been mocked at as one of the most cynical gibes in English politics, but it has been real and earnest to-day. The Queen has been received in Dublin with heartiness and sympathy, and in return she has delivered a womanly message which endears her to her Irish subjects. Sovereign and people have been brought into close relations through the valor of the Irish soldiers, whose motherland she honors as the cradle of a brave race.

The vast assemblage of spectators lining the route of eight miles from Kingstown Harbor to the Viceregal Lodge had not received the message when it greeted her appearance with all the loyal enthusiasm of London itself on Jubilee Day, but it was moved by the sight of the aged sovereign, whose infirmities could no longer be concealed, and it was touched by the influence and personality of the most womanly of queens.

The royal reply to the corporation address of welcome was read aloud by the Lord Mayor after she had passed, and the auditors in the grand stand applauded every sentence. The Queen's tact increases with the burden of years. This message touches every Irish heart and seals the success of her mission of peace and reconciliation.

The Queen was received by the Lord Lieutenant and the Duke of Connaught when she landed at Kingstown, and also by the High Sheriff and the Lieutenant of the County of Dublin. An address from the Corporation of Kingstown was presented, and the royal procession of four landaus started for Dublin, under the escort of the King's Dragoon Guards. The roadway was lined with spectators for eight miles, and there was continuous cheering, with every evidence of sincerity and enthusiasm.

PRECEDENTS FROM CROMWELL'S TIME. The first halt was at Upper Leeson-st., where a quaint and beautiful ceremony was conducted with an improvised stage setting. This was the opening of the gates of an Irish castle which had been constructed across the roadway, with a massive arch and picturesque turrets. It was a stately scene, rich in color and in reminiscences of oldtime tradition. The Lord Mayor and the Aldermen were behind the gateway.

The Queen appeared to be much affected by the warmth of her welcome.

Mr. Burke, a son of the former city sword bearer, took the place of James Egan, the sword bearer, who had refused to officiate. But the Lord Mayor himself handed the sword and keys to Her Majesty, who touched them. The ceremonies at the City Gate were most picturesque. London's Jubilee Lord Mayor, Sir George Faulde Phillips, declared that the reception and ceremonies were the finest he had ever seen, far surpassing those of the great Jubilee.

In reply to the address of welcome of the Townshill Commissioners of Kingstown, the Queen handed the following to the chairman: "I thank you for your loyal and dutiful address and for the warm welcome which you have greeted me on. On setting foot again on Irish soil I received with heartfelt satisfaction your assurances of devotion and affection toward me. I am looking forward with much pleasure to my visit to the part of my dominions, and I pray may God bless Ireland with increasing welfare and prosperity."

As this written reply was handed to the chairman Her Majesty said: "I am very pleased to find myself in Ireland again."

In the evening the Queen, through Sir Arthur Bigge, her private secretary, sent the Lord Mayor a message, saying that she was not over-fatigued by the morning's drive, and had been deeply touched and gratified by the welcome she had received. The message concluded as follows: "Her Majesty looks forward with much pleasure to her stay in Ireland."

Later, through Sir Matthew White-Ridley and Earl Cadogan, the Queen officially conveyed to the Lord Mayor the following: "Convey to the Lord Mayor and citizens of Dublin the sincere thanks of the Queen for the loyalty and enthusiasm of the greeting which Her Majesty received during her progress through the beautifully decorated route. The Queen is happy to be once more among her Irish people, from whom she has again received so warm a welcome."

"The Freeman's Journal," representing the Nationalists, and always associated with the leadership of John Dillon and Michael Davitt, says: "The reception accorded the Queen has amply vindicated Irish reputation for kindly and courteous hospitality; but there must be no attempt to misrepresent or misrepresent the attitude and feeling of the people. It was not to the Queen, it was not to the supreme representative of the empire, but to an aged and feeble lady that this kindly Irish welcome was afforded. The temptation to make her coming a respectful demonstration for strong protest, which would command attention, against the hateful British Government in Ireland has been resisted with wonderful forbearance."

Dealing with the address of welcome presented by the Corporation, "The Freeman's Journal," like the other Nationalist papers, deprecates it, and points out that it was "welcome and not loyalty, that was offered, while the Queen, in her reply, expressed thanks for what was not offered." "The Freeman's Journal" insists that the reception indicates that friendship can be secured by concessions far more easily than by coercion, ending thus: "Until liberty is restored, carrying prosperity and contentment, there can be no true loyalty in Ireland."

John Redmond's "Independent" says: "While realizing the capital which the loyalist party will make out of the reception, we are glad the Nationalists preserved a respectful demeanor to the Queen. Ireland will once more be represented as a thriving and contented portion of the Queen's dominions. Under these conditions, the Nationalists may possess their souls in patience, and allow the loyalists to enjoy a rare holiday undisturbed."

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ADMIRAL IN POLITICS.

DEWEY WILLING TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT.

WOULD ACCEPT A NOMINATION ON A REPUBLICAN, DEMOCRATIC OR INDEPENDENT TICKET—A SURPRISE TO POLITICIANS.

(Copyright, 1900, By The New-York Tribune.) [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, April 4.—Admiral George Dewey frankly announced himself to-day as an eclectic candidate for the Presidency. Symptoms that the elusive and hypnotizing Presidential bee was hovering about the Dewey mansion in Rhode Island-ave, have not been lacking for some months; but the Admiral's unconditional declaration of his willingness to head a ticket for the Presidency undoubtedly caught most Washington politicians napping. The prospective candidate confided his purposes yesterday to a representative of "The New-York World," because, as he said to-day: "I was 'The World's' candidate for the Presidency before I returned from Manila, and it was only in response to my earnest appeal that 'The World' ceased its efforts in my behalf."

The Admiral's political programme is admirably simple. His candidacy once announced, he looks to a sort of spontaneous outbreak of sentiment to force his nomination and election. He does not bind himself to become the candidate of any one party. If the Republican party thinks his elevation the Presidency desirable or necessary, he will administer his office as a Republican. If the Democratic politicians turn to him as the savior of National and party destiny, he will accept the Democratic nomination and count himself a Democratic President, if elected. If neither the Republican nor the Democratic party desires to avail itself of his leadership, the minor tag end organizations are at liberty to stamp his name on their banners, and if nominated and elected by one or more of them he will administer the Chief Magistracy as an independent or era of good feeling President.

HIS IDEA OF THE PRESIDENCY. "To my mind," the Admiral explained this morning, "the office of President, as contemplated by the Constitution, is wholly executive. It is not my idea that the President should dictate to Congress, but, on the contrary, I believe he should execute the laws which Congress enacts faithfully and without fear or prejudice. I remember the denunciation which once followed the announcement by a President of the United States of 'my policy.'"

Indeed, until Admiral Dewey ascertains the temper of the American people in regard to his candidacy, he intends to maintain absolute silence in regard to his party affiliations or his views on political questions.

"I have very decided opinions on matters of public moment," he said to-day, "but I am not prepared to announce them at the present time. I have been reading the newspapers constantly and have received thousands of letters from all parts of the country, and have formed very strong opinions on a number of matters in which the public is interested, but I do not think it would be wise to announce them at present. Candidates for the Presidency do not make platforms."

WHY HE CHANGED HIS MIND. "What has induced you to change your mind in regard to the Presidency?" "When I first returned from Manila," replied the Admiral, "my health was not as good as it is now. I did not know so well the feelings of the people toward me. Ever since my return I have been receiving letters urging me to announce my willingness to become President, and I have discovered that the position of Admiral is not the highest in the United States. The highest position in the United States is that of President, and if the American people want me to act as President, how can I refuse? Everywhere I have gone I have been most warmly received, and people in the crowds have exclaimed 'We want you for President.' Thirty years ago I would never have believed that an officer of the United States would have met with such a reception as that given me on my recent trip through the South. I was everywhere received with the greatest warmth and courtesy. I think that sectionalism is being wiped out rapidly, and that the old feeling of the South toward the North is rapidly disappearing. The Spanish war did a great deal to bring the country together. The people of the South are more prosperous to-day than they were before. They are building cotton mills all over the South, and manufacturing of every kind is on the increase."

It is clearly the Admiral's desire to receive the Presidential nomination, if it comes to him at all, as a spontaneous offering from the voters of one or another of the great parties or from a combination of elements in both. He has therefore so far opened no negotiations with recognized Republican or Democratic leaders. Probably the one politician of influence in his confidence is his brother-in-law, John R. McLean.

TO TEST POPULAR FEELING. Admiral Dewey will soon have an opportunity to test the feelings of the people toward his Presidential candidacy. He will go to Philadelphia to-morrow to attend a concert given under the auspices of Mrs. Cassatt, wife of the president of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The concert is for the benefit of the widows and orphans of soldiers and sailors who lost their lives in the war with Spain.

Toward the end of the month the Admiral will start for an extended Western tour, visiting among other places Chicago, where he will be entertained on May 1, the second anniversary of the battle of Manila Bay. He said to-day that this trip had been arranged and the invitation accepted long before he made up his mind as to the Presidency. The Admiral denied most emphatically the assertion that he intended to visit Europe this summer.

"Every few days this story is sent out from Washington," he said, "I have not, and never have had, any intention whatever of visiting Europe this summer. A number of Europeans, and particularly the English, have urged me to make a tour of Europe, and assured me that I would be well received, especially in England, but I have no desire to go abroad this summer. A different course, inasmuch as so many assurances have come to me from my countrymen that

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