

WAR IN THE TRANSVAAL.

London, March 20.—The British public probably is more interested in the fate of Mafeking than it is in the more significant events which are taking place in the Orange Free State.

Two relieving forces are pushing their way toward the town. One under Colonel Plumer has been for months working its way south until now it is at Pitsan and Plumer's scouts have penetrated to within 14 miles of Baden-Powell's trenches.

Plumer's force is nearer and is more likely to reach the goal first, but it is doubtful if he has enough supplies with him to be of much benefit to the besieged.

General Roberts has troops to spare and will probably not take the risk of sending a weak column, especially as Mafeking can be made the base of an effective turning movement on the Boer positions on the Witwatersrand ridge entirely apart from the urgent necessity for relieving the garrison, which has made a gallant defense.

There is a group of officers serving under Colonel Baden-Powell whose deliverance will be eagerly awaited in London, where they are well known.

But of more importance from a military point of view is the apparent utter collapse of the armed resistance in the Orange Free State.

Of course the action of the Free Staters does not mean the end of the war, but it greatly simplifies its military problems.

It seems entirely probable that the Boers will resist most determinedly the invasion of the Transvaal, and unless a peace party arises in Pretoria sufficiently strong to give up the unequal contest, many more lives must be sacrificed before Roberts enters the South African strongholds of Johannesburg and Pretoria.

The Boer losses since the beginning of the war are stated in one of the Pretoria dispatches to be 4200 officers and men, not including General Cronje's force.

The Boer losses therefore now figure up to about 8800, or nearly 9000, which, allowing that the Boer force at the start was, at the outside and all told, 70,000 men, amounts to close on one-seventh of their number.

From what is left must be deducted a proportion for the defections daily reported from the south of the Free state; it will therefore probably be not far from the mark to say that the Boer army in the field is now less than in October last by from 10,000 to 14,000 men.

That leaves still, perhaps, from 45,000 to 50,000 seasoned fighters with their artillery, counting the captures from the British, undiminished.

A Surgical Phenomenon. Hartford, March 20.—A sewing needle 2 1/2 inches was taken from the appendix of a young woman patient at St. Francis' hospital Thursday.

Heavy Loss by Fire. Quincy, Mass., March 20.—The most destructive fire in the history of the city broke out at 4 o'clock Sunday morning in the Music hall building, destroying the structure and entailing a loss of \$68,200.

Easy For the Democrats. Boston, March 20.—At a special election, held in the Eighth Suffolk district, Joseph P. Lomasney (Dem.) was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of E. P. Donovan, recently elected city clerk.

BRYAN'S PLATFORM.

Lincoln, Neb., March 20.—Mr. Bryan's speech before the Democratic state convention last night is considered the war note of the campaign of 1900.

It is considered the opening gun of the great presidential contest, and the proceedings of the convention will furnish the key to the general character of the coming campaign.

The platform which was adopted by the Nebraska Democracy with the greatest enthusiasm reaffirms the Chicago platform, declares for "16 to 1," opposes a large standing army, denounces the action of the Republican party on the Puerto Rico tariff bill, declares against trusts and imperialism and favors the income tax and the choice of United States senators by popular vote.

The platform is practically the creation of Mr. Bryan. He did not write it personally, but he was consulted concerning it, and before it was read to the convention it had been approved of throughout.

The platform adopted by the Populist convention was substantially the same as that adopted by the Democrats. It differs somewhat in form, but conflicts in no essential point.

Both conventions were enthusiastic for Mr. Bryan to the last degree and every mention of his name was greeted with cheers of delight and approval.

Mr. Bryan's speech before the Democratic convention dealt almost entirely with the three questions he has been discussing in various parts of the country—money, trusts and imperialism.

On the trust question he reiterated his condemnation of the Republican party, and said that the Republican party was powerless to interfere with the trusts because the leading Republicans were connected with the trusts, and the party had to rely upon trust contributions to carry on the coming campaign.

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THE ASSASSINATION OF GOEBEL.

Story of a Soldier's Confession of the Details of a Deeply-Laid Plot. Frankfort, Ky., March 20.—Sergeant F. W. Golden of the Barbourville company of the state militia has confessed the details of the plot to kill Governor Goebel, so the lawyers retained by the prosecution say.

A pledge of immunity from death was given him if he would aid them in the prosecution, and since then he has been in the vicinity of Barbourville gathering evidence to be used in the trial.

He is expected to go on the stand during the trial of Powers and the other five prisoners now under arrest, and to tell of a mountain plot from the beginning.

He will declare, according to the lawyers, that the assassination of Goebel was coolly planned by Republicans in Frankfort, the belief being that with this leader out of the way the party could remain in control of the situation.

He was present, he will say, at the conferences at which the plans were made, and he is expected to give the names of three young men of Barbourville, who, he alleges, were offered \$1200 if they would kill the Democratic leader.

The man who did the shooting is described as a notorious character in the mountains—one with whom killing has become a science—and Golden will say a large sum was paid to him for the task of slaying Goebel.

Decision in Quackenbush Case. Washington, March 20.—Chief Justice Fuller of the United States supreme court yesterday handed down an opinion in the claim of Commander Quackenbush of the United States navy to recover pay for services from 1833 to 1837.

The case involves a complicated story of international bimetalism, when the leaders neither expected nor desired the restoration of the double standard, either by independent action or by international agreement.

Not Acceptable to Cutlers. Concord, N. H., March 20.—The following terms of settlement of the granite strike were offered the cutters in this city by the manufacturers and refused: Eight hours for a working day and 35 cents an hour as a minimum rate of wages, the cutters to continue at work pending the adjustment of the piece bill of prices; that all building work done in this city by day work or piece work be agreed upon at the same terms and conditions as may be finally agreed upon at Hallowell, Me., or Milford, Mass.

Colonists' Prospects Not Bright. Havana, March 20.—General Wood has ordered the officer commanding at Puerto Principe to have a full investigation made into the management of the La Gloria colony.

Figures from Salvation Army. Albany, March 20.—The annual report of the Salvation Army was yesterday filed with the secretary of state. It shows that the value of the property of the army in the United States is \$622,335.

Steamer Sunk by Bark. London, March 20.—The British steamer Verona of Glasgow, from Buenos Ayres, Feb. 19, for Hamburg, was sunk in collision with the British bark Dunstaffnago, from Philadelphia, Feb. 9, for Hlozo, and two of the Verona's crew were drowned.

Met a Terrible Fate. Providence, March 20.—James Angelo, 23 years old, employed in the Manton mill, was attempting to shut off the steam at a valve over a vat of boiling dyestuff, when he lost his balance and was immersed in the scalding liquid.

To Become a Congregationalist. New York, March 20.—Arthur C. McGiffert of Union theological seminary, long under charges of heresy, has withdrawn from the Presbyterian church.

Shirley Sentiment Equally Divided. Boston, March 20.—Several more Massachusetts towns held their annual meetings Monday and very nearly completed the quota of those held during March.

Rescued in Nick of Time. Marblehead, Mass., March 20.—Richard P. and William P. Russell had a narrow escape from drowning on Sunday, and were rescued by Joshua Witham and H. L. Roads, after they had been in the water for half an hour, clinging to their dory.

Fourteen Rounds Knocked Off. Lynn, Mass., March 20.—Danny McBride was given the decision over Martin Flaherty in the first round, after two minutes of fighting, at the Prospect club last night, on the ground that the latter did not break clean.

Sold to New York Syndicate. Worcester, Mass., March 20.—The stock of the Worcester and Suburban railway has been sold to a New York syndicate, which controls similar interests in Springfield and near Boston.

NEWS SUMMARY.

Frank T. Arnold, aged 65, dropped dead from apoplexy at Peabody, Mass. He had been connected with the Peabody and Boston express for over 30 years, was a veteran of the Civil war and had been a factor in the political life of the town.

The plant of the New England Box company at Winchester, N. H., was partially burned, causing a loss of \$15,000.

A certificate of incorporation was filed at Dover, Del., for the Standard Fishing Rod company of Warren, Mass., to manufacture and sell fishing rods and other sporting goods.

Henry Grayson, Capital, \$25,000, has been appointed to take charge of the new department of forestry at Yale.

Antoine Boutin, who jumped from a third story window at Fall River while crazed with pain about 10 days ago, is dead from his injuries.

The assignees of the wholesale grocery firm of John A. Andrews & Co., Boston, report that the total liabilities are \$364,522.81, and the assets, \$414,179.89.

Mrs. Ellen W. Thornton died at Nashua, N. H., aged 69 years. She was the widow of the late Captain Thornton, U. S. N., who was the executive officer on the Kearsarge in her famous fight with the Albatross.

Rev. Richard L. Swaine of South Hadley Falls, Mass., who was extended a call to the pastorate of the First Congregational church at Laconia, N. H., has declined to accept.

Michael Iatros, the foremost Greek of Lowell, Mass., has been appointed consul at that place by the King of Greece. Mr. Iatros is a highly cultured citizen, and has appeared upon several occasions before various educational clubs of Lowell.

Myrick Davidson, aged 70, was struck and instantly killed by an electric car at Providence.

Captain James H. Wilkins died at New Haven, aged 57. He was a native of North Carolina and a veteran of the Civil war, being a member of the Fifty-first Massachusetts volunteers; it is also claimed that he was the first colored man to join a New England regiment.

Arthur Burdick, aged 68, who has been dependent on account of continued ill health, hanged himself at Danielson, Conn.

John Brackett, 37, was instantly killed at Lebanon, Me. He was seated on top of a load of logs when one of the sleds, by slipping, threw the driver to the ground and the logs rolled on top of him.

James N. King, 17, colored, was crushed to death by an elevator at Boston. He tried to board the moving car. A friendly slip on the shoulder led to the death of Edward Harkins at Boston.

Mr. Harkins, who was 65 years old, fell so heavily after the blow that he fractured a hip and received a shock.

Three good established business chances for young men, two of the parties wishing to retire from business, a grand chance for a retail party. If you want any insurance, either fire, life or accident, we can furnish you the same in the best of Companies at

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NEW ENGLAND MACHINISTS STRIKE.

Boston, March 20.—Representatives of the International Association of Machinists say that local conditions in the various cities where the machinists are disaffected will govern the calling of a general strike.

As estimated by President O'Connell 126,000 machinists will be affected by a national strike.

In the New England states there are 50,000 men working in the trade, and it is said that this section will be the battle-field. When Mr. O'Connell returns from Cleveland, where he will be on Wednesday, he will leave for the east and probably direct matters from New York or Boston.

Clergyman's Sensational Statement. Boston, March 20.—At a public meeting Sunday evening under the auspices of the Watch and Ward society, Rev. Frederick B. Allen declared that a large number of vicious plays have been produced in Boston during the last few years.

Uxbridge in a Bad Fix. Uxbridge, Mass., March 20.—Much consternation reigns in this town over the cutting off of the entire water supply of the town through a leak in the reservoir.

For Textile Workers to Consider. Fall River, Mass., March 20.—The conference of the committees from the Textile council and the Manufacturers' association, to decide upon a sliding scale, was without definite results, although a slight concession was offered by the manufacturers, inasmuch as the maximum wages will be paid when the margin reaches 103, instead of 105.

Probably Went to the Bottom. Halifax, March 20.—Schooner Harold Borden is now out 60 days from Digby, N. S., for Havana, and has about been given up for lost. She was commanded by Captain Mailman, who last year lost the schooner Nugget, near Turk's Island.

Can You Afford. Buy a fine residence on Summer street, it is one of the best locations in town.

Buy a fine residence on Cliff street fitted for two tenements with all the modern improvements.

Buy a farm of 200 acres in the edge of Concord near the Johnsons line, a good dwelling almost new, other buildings in good repair, sugar place of 800 trees, well divided into tillage, wood land, first class place for the right party.

Buy a small place near Fairbanks Village, not far from the shops.

Buy a small place of 16 acres near Fairbanks Village handy for any one that wants to work in the shops.

Buy a fine residence on the edge of Danville, house comparatively new.

Buy a fine residence in Summerville.

Buy a farm of 140 acres near Goose Hollow. Cuts 40 tons of hay.

Three good established business chances for young men, two of the parties wishing to retire from business, a grand chance for a retail party. If you want any insurance, either fire, life or accident, we can furnish you the same in the best of Companies at

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VERMONT NEWS.

Hon. E. J. Phelps' Will. The will of the late Hon. E. J. Phelps was filed at the probate office by Judge T. E. Wales, acting for his executors. The will leaves practically all of the estate to Mrs. Phelps, the widow of the deceased.

To his namesake, Edward Jennings of Bennington, Mr. Phelps gave the sum of \$500, to be used in the purchase of a piece of plate by which he should remember the deceased.

Interesting Souvenirs. Capt. George A. Dodd of the Third United States Cavalry, who is so well known through New England for his famous "Troop F," has recently sent home to Mrs. Dodd some interesting souvenirs.

F. L. Fish Appointed. F. L. Fish of Vergennes, States' Attorney of Addison county has received the appointment as national bank examiner of the State of Vermont with the unanimous endorsement of the Vermont Congress.

Free Ticket to Burlington. A visit to the Metropolis of Vermont is delightful at any season of the year, but especially so in the spring. If you would combine business with pleasure and live within 100 miles of Burlington, write to the Old Bee Hive Carpet Store for the spring catalogue and ticket to Burlington and return.

Bankruptcy Notice. In the District Court of the United States for the District of Vermont. In the matter of Hiram J. Chesley. In Bankruptcy.

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REWARD.

We, the undersigned, druggists offer a reward of 50 cents to any person who purchases 25 cent boxes of Baxter's Mandrake Bilets Tablets, if it fails to cure constipation, biliousness, sick-headache, jaundice, loss of appetite, sour stomach, dyspepsia, liver complaint, or any of the diseases for which it is recommended.

C. C. Bingham, Flint Bros., Standard Drug Store, W. B. Eastman, F. G. Landry, Stiles Drug Co.

DYEING and CLEANING. AN OLD OR A NEW COLOR. If it is possible to revive colors we can do it. Satisfactory dye work, garments an entire different color, or a factory of what a new garment would cost you. Call and see about it at L. P. LEACH'S, 75 Railroad St., St. Johnsbury, Concord Dyse House Agency.

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THE WOODVILLE NATIONAL BANK, WOODVILLE, N. H. Makes no charge of exchange to its depositors. Credits at PAR on date of receipt ALL checks regardless of AMOUNT and POINTS drawn on. WE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY. Open an account with us and we will demonstrate our assertions. Address, H. W. ALLEN, Cashier, WOODVILLE, N. H.

My Endowment Bonds Are the Most Liberal Contract IN THE WORLD. Investigate and be convinced. CHAS. S. HASTINGS, Gen. Agent for Vermont. OVER POST OFFICE.

CRAWFORD RANNEY'S Insurance and Real Estate Agency, Pythian Building, Eastern Ave., St. Johnsbury, Vermont. Commissioners' Notice. GEORGE H. PIERCE'S ESTATE. The subscribers having been appointed by the Honorable Probate Court for the District of Caledonia, Commissioners to receive, examine, and adjust all claims and demands of all persons against the estate of George H. Pierce, late of St. Johnsbury, Center in said district deceased, and the term of six months from the 17th day of March, 1900, being allowed by said Court to the creditors of said deceased, to exhibit and prove their respective claims before us: Give notice that we will attend to the duties of our appointment at the dwelling house of Hollis S. Pierce in St. Johnsbury in said district, on the 20th day of April, 1900, at 10 o'clock a. m., and on the 16th day of August next, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, on each of said days. PRENTICE L. PIERCE, M. D. FARK, Commissioners. St. Johnsbury, March 16, A. D. 1900.

THE OLD FASHIONED BATTERY and other obsolete appliances have been superseded by New and Improved Electrical Supplies which give a maximum of service at the Minimum Cost. These up-to-date goods are to be found in our stock. We aim to have at all times those of the latest and best construction. Estimates furnished for Lights and Power, etc. St. Johnsbury Electric Co.

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