

ROBERTS

Has Driven the Boers Across Modder River.

He Reports That They Are Rallying, But Not In Great Strength North of the River.

The Fighting Was Renewed Today---London Excited by Hope That President Steyn Might be Captured---Events That Will Astonish Europe---War News.

LONDON, MARCH 8.--(SPL.)--3 P. M.--The War Office received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts:

"POPLAR GROVE, MARCH 8.--Two brigades of Cavalry, with horse artillery, and Kelly-Kenny's division of infantry, marched today ten miles to the eastward. The Boers were quite taken by surprise yesterday and moved off so hurriedly that they left their cooked dinners behind.

"We captured a Krupp gun and several tents and wagons. Our total casualties were two officers killed and three wounded. Twelve launcers were killed and 46 wounded.

"Clements occupies Norvalspont on the south bank of the Orange River. The bridge was blown up on March 6. The enemy are gathering on the north bank of the river, but it is not believed that they are in great strength."

Gen. Roberts renewed the attack upon the Boer positions today and the contest that is to decide the fate of Bloemfontein is now in progress.

HOPEFUL

That the Free State President Might be Captured.

London, March 8.--(SPL.)--London was startled today in the midst of the enthusiasm over Roberts' defeat and pursuit of the Boers by the suggestion that President Steyn, of the Orange Free State, might be captured.

It is known that within a few days President Steyn was in the Boer army, facing Roberts and was there in consultation with General Joubert.

It is hoped that General Roberts will be able to repeat the success he made in surrounding Cronje by encompassing the fleeing army of Joubert and that President Steyn will be taken with it.

The calmer observers of the war do not believe that Roberts will be able to catch the wily Joubert, as he did Cronje, and suggest that in all probability the Free State President will be hurried ahead of the Boer army in

its flight and will quickly be put in a place of safety, even if Bloemfontein is speedily reached by the British.

Still the possibility of Steyn's capture is exciting the keenest interest in Roberts' chase after Joubert's army.

A dispatch from A. G. Hales, a correspondent, who was captured by the Boers and just released, says:

"When a prisoner at Bloemfontein I had an interview with Steyn, the President of the Free State, who said that the fight would continue to the bitter end."

EVENTS

That Will Astonish Europe Will Occur Before Pretoria Falls.

London, March 8.--(SPL.)--A correspondent of the Daily News who was captured by the Boers, but who is now at Sterkstroom, having been released at Bloemfontein by his captors, cables that while at the capital of the Orange Free State he had an interview

with President Steyn, who said that the Boers would fight to the last man. He admitted the possibility of Pretoria capitulating, but said it would be preceded by events that would astonish Europe. He added that the struggle in the Free State would be child's play compared with what would follow in the Transvaal.

The correspondent says that President Steyn has appointed a deputy president to remain in Bloemfontein while he visits Pretoria in the interests of the Free State.

The correspondent of the Morning Post, cabling from Ofontein under date of March 6, says he has positive information that the agitation of the peace party in Great Britain is influencing the Boers' determination to prolong the war, they hoping that the conservative government will be defeated.

LAST RESORT.

Mines of Dynamite Being Placed by Boers in Passes.

Lorenzo Marques, March 8.--(SPL.)--It is reported here that many passes leading to Pretoria are being mined with dynamite. The mines are said to be connected by underground wires and the mines can be touched off from positions on surrounding hills. This method will only be resorted to, it is said, when the British threaten Pretoria.

TO ST. HELENA.

Cronje Will be Confined on Isle Napoleon Made Famous.

Simonstown, Cape Colony, March 8.--(SPL.)--Twenty-five of General Cronje's officers are due here tonight. They will be confined aboard the transport Mongolian before being transported to St. Helena. Four transports with 3,700 prisoners are now anchored off here and there are 800 prisoners in camp.

General Cronje and staff express themselves as well pleased with their treatment. The General says he has simply been overwhelmed with kindness. Many women, who are reported to be good shots, are among the prisoners.

LIKE THE SAINTS,

Mafeking's People Cried, "How Long, Oh Lord, How Long?"

London, March 8.--(SPL.)--A dispatch from Mafeking, dated Feb. 18, which in some way reached Lorenzo Marques on March 5, and was forwarded from there, says:

"The defenders are despondent but determined. Typhoid malaria has broken out in the women's laager which the enemy are deliberately shelling. Dysentery is rife and the garrison is reduced to horse flesh. The hospitals are full to overflowing and

the graves in the children's cemetery increase in number week by week.

"The natives have been reduced to a handful of meal a day.

"The enemy is raking the streets and it is impossible to dodge the bullets. Like the Saints we cry out 'How long O Lord; how long?'

"Our losses up to date has been 292."

The dispatch concludes as follows: "The cheerfulness which was characteristic of the early days of the siege has almost deserted us, the men preferring to remain at their posts rather than move about and work up an appetite which cannot be satisfied.

"The natives are in the worst plight. Those who are unable to obtain work are allowed a small handful of meal daily. Many, braving the danger, wander about the town with gaunt and hungry faces in search of work, which entitles them to an extra ration of meal. If they find work

(Continued on eighth page.)

SEVERE

Criticism For Queen.

Miss Gonne, Ireland's "Joan of Arc"

Wants the Queen to be Treated Discourteously

On the Occasion of Her Visit to Ireland.

Tells How Irish Soldiers Sympathize With the Boers.

New York, March 8.--(SPL.)--Miss Maud Gonne, the Irish "Joan of Arc," when shown the cablegram from London announcing Victoria's order that the Irish troops shall wear a sprig of shamrock on St. Patrick's day, and also the dispatch announcing Victoria's plans to visit Ireland, said she hoped the Queen would be "rotten egged when she appeared" on the streets in Ireland in her carriage.

She said: "For several years there has been a row on each St. Patrick's day with the Irish soldiers who put on sprigs of shamrock. Discussions have arisen in Parliament. Strong opposition has been made to the invariable imprisonment that has been meted out to the soldiers. Personally I have always looked upon it in this way: That when an Irishman who wears the English uniform puts on the shamrock he is simply degrading the Irish emblem. So I have not the slightest sympathy with the soldiers on that question.

"England is now trying to make it out that the Irish regiments are loyal, and that is the greatest proof in itself that there is a great deal of disloyalty. And that is the reason the Queen thanks them, makes her statement and proposes to visit my country.

"We know that every regiment went unwillingly, and have read accounts of how they threw their rifles overboard at Watford, rather than be taken on board, and had to be handcuffed; and how another regiment went out of Cork harbor and pulled Boer flags out of their pockets and cheered for the Boers.

"We know that during the Afrid war they threw down their arms and refused to fight, and that the English accordingly met a great defeat.

"Personally, I know, and Irish soldiers have told me, that they were going to let the Queen pay their journey out for them and that then they would fight for the Boers.

"I hardly think it is likely that Her Majesty will go to Ireland. She will not want to be received like Chamberlain. If she went I should like to get home in time to receive her. I hope, for the honor of my country, that they will receive her in the same way they did him. They may let her go without too many rotten eggs after her carriage in honor of her age. But she will get no sort of reception, that is certain. It is a good many years since she has made a visit. We do not want her, we have not complained of her absence. As a matter of fact, I do not believe she will go at all."

Miss Gonne called for home today.

STRAINED

Are the Relations

Of England and France, Says an Official.

English Press Helping Foment the Trouble.

A Startling Story That Comes From Paris.

England, However, Seems to Have Her Hands Full Now.

Paris, March 8.--(SPL.)--It is learned here that extreme tension exists in the Anglo-French relations, and that French official circles are considering the probability of war. An important official who possesses the confidence of the ministry, says that it would be useless to longer deny the fact that Great Britain aims at attacking France. He added that it had been evident for some time that the English press was obeying instructions in making the most of every trifling offense given by the French press, while ignoring graver insults from the press of other countries.

Moreover, all of Great Britain's preparations are known to be solely directed against France. Every step that England has taken has been met with a corresponding precautionary step by France.

It was not weakness that made the French yield in the Fashoda dispute, but moderation, though apparently all moderation was wasted in England's present temper. France is now prepared and ready to resist British aggression.

The diplomatist said further: "I have put the case none too strong. Remember, we do not wish for war, but England's disposition is too evidently to be misunderstood. Consequently we have made all the necessary precautions to avoid being taken at a disadvantage.

"Sottres and ammunition have been accumulated in the colonies in sufficient quantities to enable them, though isolated, to maintain a long campaign.

"The French fleet possess safe refuges, from which, opportunities offering, it will be able to cover movements against England's weak points, which are perfectly known, should war be declared. Stranger things have happened than seeing the tricolor in London and Cairo."

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AGAINST TAYLOR

Judge Field Will Decide Saturday--Taylor Preparing.

Louisville, Ky., March 8.--(SPL.)--Judge Field on Saturday will decide the agreed case between Taylor and Beckham rivals for the gubernatorial chair and today it is learned on the best authority that Fields' opinion will be against Taylor. It is to prepare for this and prevent the Democrats taking snap judgment on him that Governor Taylor has massed his militia at London and sent all the state guns there.

Cheers For the Queen.

London, March 8.--(SPL.)--The Queen arrived at Paddington station from Windsor at 12:30 p. m. and drove to Buckingham palace in an open carriage drawn by four bays. Vast crowds lined the streets along the route and her

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Majesty was received with unbounded enthusiasm and prolonged cheering.

CHANGING FRONT

On the Macrum Investigation Resolution.

Administration Decides to do Something About It.

Washington, March 8.--(SPL.)--The House committee on rules has changed front on the Macrum investigation resolution of Representative Wheeler, and instead of smothering it in the rules committee, as was believed to be the intention of Representative Richardson, it will be reported with the recommendation that the investigation be made by the foreign affairs committee.

HARRISON

Doesn't Think Chicago People Are Very Easily Shocked.

Chicago, Ills., March 8.--(SPL.)--"Sapho" is to be presented again at one of the Chicago theaters beginning March 25. Mayor Harrison was asked whether he would take any steps to suppress the play. The mayor said: "I know of no reason why I should be expected to do anything. The play was given here last fall but I never heard of any objection to it then. I don't believe the people of Chicago are afraid of being shocked. Unless some citizens make complaint I don't believe anything will be done."

TO DEATH

Has a Cigarette Fiend Been Sentenced--Yonugest on Record.

Bridgeport, Conn., March 8.--(SPL.)--Charlie Cross, who was such a confirmed cigarette fiend that he consid-

ered one hundred cigarettes a day, a small allowance, is now in his 15th year, under sentence of death for murder. He is the youngest person ever sentenced to death in this state.

Cross killed Sarah C. King on Nov. 9, last, at Long Range, and last night was found guilty of murder in the first degree.

Judge Roselback sentenced him to death and fixed July 20 as the date on which he is to be hanged.

PASSING YEARS. Look in your mirror today. Take a last look at your gray hair. It surely may be the last if you want it so; you needn't keep your gray hair a week longer than you wish. There's no guesswork about this; it's sure every time.

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