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MAFEKING'S FATE CAUSES BRITONS TO BE APPREHENSIVE

Plumer's Relief Force Attacked and Driven Further Away Than Ever.

Kruger and Steyn Disputing Whether the Transvaal Republic Has Annexed the Orange Free State.

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LONDON, March 24.—Mafeking's fate absorbs most of the public interest in the war. Four dispatches treating on various columns have been received. It is plain so far as the Rhodesian force under Plumer is concerned that the town of Mafeking is almost as far from relief as ever.

ATTACKS OF BOERS ON BLUMER'S FORCE

LONDON, March 23, 9:30 p. m.—The War Office has issued the following: "From the general at Cape Town to the Secretary of War: 'CAPE TOWN, March 23.—The following telegram has arrived from Nicholson, Bulwer, March 18: 'LOBATSI, March 14.—The Boers advanced from the south in considerable force this morning. They first advanced Lemishak telegraphed to the Premier, Dr. von Koebe, demanding that he take steps to stop the exportation of forty-five cannon, which are said to have left the Skoda factory, Bohemia, on their way to Trieste, it being further alleged that they are intended for the use of the British forces in South Africa.'



FIGHTING AND WATCHING AT MAFEKING

The latest news from Colonel Plumer's column is to the effect that he has given up the attempt to reach Mafeking and retired, after sharp fighting, from Lobetsi to Crocodile Pools, some ten miles to the north. What disappointment this failure to succeed then brings to the garrison can be better imagined than described. Ever since his arrival at Lobetsi some three weeks ago they have doubtless been at the pitch of anxious expectation to see the head of his column come in sight. The illustration shows the men in the trenches using their guns on the Boers and their telescopes in looking for Plumer.

Whether the Boers will be left much longer undisturbed depends on the movements of the flying column moving from the south. It is difficult to understand the precise nature of the operations from that direction or the extent of progress of this force.

According to one telegram the Mafeking relief force has not yet started from Kimberley, but this probably refers to a large and substantial force in charge of a convoy of provisions and other necessities for the besieged town.

A mobile column probably consisting of mounted men, with a few serviceable guns, is supposed to have started three weeks ago. Unless it has met with more difficulties than were expected it must by this time be approaching its goal.

Rumors were current in London all day yesterday that Mafeking had been relieved from the south, but this did not receive official confirmation. From the southern part of the Orange Free State news that disposes of the Boer story of the capture of General Gatacre and his staff. The forces of Generals Clements and Gatacre joined hands on Thursday at Donkers Poort, which is ten or twelve miles from Norval's Post and about twenty-five miles from Springfontein. The rumor current in the Kroonstad camp that Commandant Olivier had fought a successful battle near Bethulle was two days earlier.

Reports from Boer sources can be relied on. Presidents Kruger and Steyn are disputing whether the Transvaal has annexed the Free State or not. Apparently the Boers are finding employment in the evening romances. President Kruger's proclamation stating that the Russians had captured London and proclaimed it the territory of the Czar afforded no end of amusement in London yesterday and will not soon be forgotten.

TO STOP THE CANNON. VIENNA, March 23.—Deputies Wolf and

WITNESSES DESCRIBE THE GOEBEL MURDER

Preliminary Examination of Secretary of State Powers Is Begun at Frankfort.



TROOPS ON GUARD AT KENTUCKY'S CAPITAL.

FRANKFORT, Ky., March 23.—The preliminary examination of Secretary of State Caleb Powers, charged with abetting the assassination of William Goebel, began to-day before Judge Mason. The courtroom was guarded inside and out by militia and scores of deputy sheriffs armed with Winchester rifles to prevent possible interference from mountaineers, who were reported on their way to Frankfort, but their presence was unnecessary, as the mountaineers failed to appear and no disorder occurred.

The witnesses to-day included Warden Eph Lillard, Detective Armstrong, Sheriff Powersworth of Fayette County, who arrested Secretary Powers, and Captain John Davis, and Silas Jones, who is now under bonds, charged with complicity in the murder. The testimony tended to show that the shots came from that section of the executive building in which Secretary Powers' office is located, although no one swore that the shots were from the Secretary's office.

The strongest evidence perhaps was given by Silas Jones, who was in Governor Taylor's anteroom when the shooting took place. There were many in there whom he did not know. It was his impression the shots were fired from the executive building, and he thought from the corner of the building in which Secretary Powers' office is located. When the shots were fired he walked into the anteroom, where he saw Captain Davis and Governor Taylor among others. There was considerable excitement. Governor Taylor came to the door and wanted to know who was shot.

Tried to Open Powers' Door. "Did you see any one try to open Caleb Powers' door?" asked Attorney Polsgrove. "Yes; I saw a man with sandy whiskers trying to open the door. He struck it with a hatchet," replied Jones. Jones said there was much noise, but he could not say that he heard any from Secretary Powers' office.

On cross-examination Jones said he saw Powers leave his office during the morning of Louisville. This was previous to the shooting. No evidence was adduced to-day tending to show that the defendant was implicated in any conspiracy, but in one of the frequent wordy disputes between the attorneys for the defense and those of the Commonwealth the fact was brought out that F. Wharton Gilder, who is said to have made a confession, would be called to the witness stand before the hearing ends. Prosecuting Attorney Polsgrove said to-night that sufficient evidence had already been heard to warrant the arrest of Powers, but that the case would be much stronger before he was through.

An incident occurred during the afternoon that showed how the people are prepared for emergencies. A soldier in the rear courtyard dropped his revolver on the stone flagging and it exploded. In an instant every man in the crowded courtroom was on his feet, fully a third of them with their hands to their rear pockets.

Explained to the President. WASHINGTON, March 23.—Colonel Andrew Cowan, a merchant of Louisville, Ky.; Samuel J. Roberts, editor of the Lexington Leader; and John Marshall, Republican Lieutenant Governor of the State, all prominent Republicans and friends of Governor Taylor, called at the White House before the Cabinet meeting to-day and had a half-hour conversation with the President on the political situation in Kentucky. On leaving the Executive Mansion they stated that they had been deposed from the Presidency and that the public affairs of the Free State are being administered by a committee at Kroonstad.

ALL DIFFERENCES FULLY ADJUSTED. Parties to the Carnegie-Frick Controversy Sign the Combine's New Charter. PITTSBURGH, March 23.—All the parties in interest in the great Carnegie-Frick controversy were in attendance in the boardroom of the Carnegie Steel Company at 11 o'clock this morning until nearly 5 o'clock this afternoon, and as a result it is said authoritatively that not only have all matters of difference been settled and adjusted, but that the separate and distinct amounts which each person is to receive from the great combined capital has been agreed upon. The charter of the Carnegie Steel Company has been signed by the persons in interest, some thirty-six in all, and the first three names on the certificate are Andrew Carnegie, Henry Phipps Jr. and Henry Clay Frick. This indicates to the world that the old friends and recent litigants are again united and standing together, heading the list of those interested in the combined industries to be represented by the Carnegie company, with its capital of \$160,000,000 and its securities amounting to perhaps as much more.

Of this amount Andrew Carnegie subscribed over \$80,000,000, Henry Phipps about \$18,000,000, Henry C. Frick about \$16,000,000, Charles M. Schwab about \$18,000,000 and Francis T. F. Lovejoy about \$3,000,000. The rest is in scattering amounts, although the list is said to contain, and certainly represents, in the neighborhood of twenty millionaires.

The result of the conference was also an agreement on all minor points of detail. The charter in the case is likely to be filed on Monday of next week, and it is proposed on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week to close all the preliminaries, to hold the directors' meeting here in Pittsburgh and to elect officers of the company and arrange every other matter of detail.

SHOWER KISSES UPON ACCUSED MISS HORLOCKER

Hastings Women Show Their Belief in the Prisoner's Innocence.

Court, Counsel and Spectators Deeply Moved by an Incident in the Trial of the Alleged Poisoner.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

HASTINGS, Neb., March 23.—The State to-day rested and the introduction of testimony in the defense of Miss Viola Horlocker, on trial for sending poisoned candy to Mrs. Morey, commenced. One witness was called to show that the woman seen in the fat about the time the candy was left there was not Miss Horlocker. The succeeding witnesses were questioned as to her inheritance of insanity from her mother and her attorney said it would be shown by testimony that she was insane at the time the crime was alleged to have been committed and is at the present time. One of the most exciting incidents of the trial occurred this afternoon when a number of Hastings women rushed up to Miss Horlocker and showered kisses upon her. The fair defendant was almost overcome by this unexpected demonstration and the court, counsel and spectators were deeply moved.



MISS VIOLA HORLOCKER, Who Is on Trial on a Charge of Attempting to Murder, by Means of Poisoned Candy, Mrs. Morey, the Wife of Her Employer.

TRIAL OF FRANCIS TRUTH CONTINUED

Sick and Maimed Persons Appear in Court as Witnesses for the Government.

Special Dispatch to The Call. BOSTON, March 23.—By agreement between counsel the trial of Francis Truth of the "Institute of Divine Healing" on the charge of having devised a "scheme and artifice" with intent to use the United States mails for the purpose of defrauding the public was continued until April 2. At the appointed hour for the beginning of the trial this morning the United States Circuit Court room was filled with spectators, most of whom seemed to have some personal interest in the proceedings. Nearly forty of them were witnesses for the Government, and many of the others were sick and maimed who have been treated by the defendant. Francis Truth, with his wife, came into the courtroom early, and as his former employer entered and took seats behind him in the capacity of Government witnesses he greeted them with a smile and a gentle bow. After the witnesses had been called the courtroom was cleared of spectators. Even Francis Truth and his counsel had to depart at the request of Assistant District Attorney Casey, who wanted a private consultation with the witnesses on the Government side.

HANDWRITING EXPERTS WILL NEXT BE HEARD

Mrs. Conrad Completes Her Testimony in the Mansfield Libel Case.

HOLLISTER, March 23.—The fourth day of the Mansfield trial closed with the two days' examination of Mrs. Conrad, the prosecuting witness. She testified as to the efforts made to entrap Mrs. Mansfield, the receipt of anonymous letters and the attempt and failure to fix the guilt on many suspected persons. Mrs. A. Tonn, Mrs. Joseph Grubb and Mrs. Olive Porter, high lights in the Rebekahs, followed with suspicious circumstances pointing to the defendant's guilt. Justice Agnew also detailed the receipt of an anonymous letter and his detective work to catch the author. The Agnews letter warned him about allowing his children to associate with the Conrad children, and followed a picnic at the Conrad place which was attended by the Agnew children. The case went over until Monday, at which time the experts on handwriting will take an inning.

CONSENTS TO DELAY. France Grants Postponement of Action on Reciprocity Treaty.

PARIS, March 23.—At a Cabinet council to-day the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Delcasse, announced the signature of the protocol delaying the ratification of the Franco-American treaty until March 24, 1901.

ONCE A RICH SAN FRANCISCO MERCHANT

James Sharp Arrested While Begging on the Streets of New York.

Special Dispatch to The Call. NEW YORK, March 23.—James Sharp, now broken in health and dressed in rags, but ten years ago, he says, a wealthy iron merchant in San Francisco, was arrested while begging in the Bowery to-day and sent to the Almshouse for thirty days. While asking alms near Bayard street the old man was found by Policeman John Liebler of the Essex Market vagrancy squad. He said he was glad to be arrested, as he was ill and hungry. He gave his age as 53 years and said: "I am penniless now, but once I was a rich man. I was an iron merchant in California, and men there who are now millionaires were once in my employ. I am ashamed to let them know that I have fallen so low. I can beg from strangers, but I would not ask help from the men who knew me in better days." On his own request the old man was sent to the Almshouse.

HARVARD GRADUATES FOR STANFORD FACULTY

President Jordan Making Selections of Instructors at the Eastern Institution.

Special Dispatch to The Call. BOSTON, March 23.—Dr. David Starr Jordan, president of Leland Stanford University, arrived in Boston last yesterday afternoon and is now stopping at the Hotel Brunswick with his wife. Dr. Jordan's last visit to Boston was in 1891, the time Stanford University was opened. He is here to visit President Eliot of Harvard, and he intends to select two or three professors for Stanford from the Harvard postgraduates. "I wanted to see President Eliot particularly," he said, "and then I came to Boston because I wish to keep in touch with Harvard as much as possible. I expect to make some important additions to our faculty, and I think this is about as good a place to come to for them as there is. Stanford has made it a point to get Harvard men where it was advisable to do so, and we already have a large number."

DUKE OF ORLEANS ATTACKED BY A BEAR

Narrowly Escapes Death While Hunting in the South of Spain. SEVILLE, Spain, March 23.—The Duke of Orleans, who is traveling in the south of Spain, participated in a wild bear hunt near here yesterday. He had a narrow escape. A bear attacked him, inflicting a wound in the leg, but the duke killed him before he could do further injury. The duke's wound is slight.