

GUARDS' BRIGADE FIRST

Lord Roberts Promises Them First Position in Charge on Pretoria.

A despatch from Bloemfontein, Mar. 16, says:—General Prettymann is succeeding admirably as Governor of the town. He issued a proclamation today, requesting the burghers within a radius of ten miles to deliver up their arms, assuring them they would be paid for the confiscation of their property.

Lord Roberts is about to issue fresh proclamations which, it is believed, will have the effect of disarming further opposition on the part of the Free Staters.

Mr. Collings has been appointed landdrost, vice Pappenus, deposed, and Mr. Frazer will act as Mayor.

Rumors are current that former President Steyn is willing to surrender. Much unrest exists among the Dutch population. The burghers describe the soldiers as locusts, saying they were innumerable and of identical color with them.

General Grobelaar is attempting to escape to the north. He has a large command and a big convoy of supplies. The majority of the townspeople anticipate that the Free Staters will offer no further resistance.

LORD ROBERTS' PROMISE.
General Lord Roberts, in an address

congratulating the Guards' Brigade on its march of 33 miles in 28 hours, said he regretted that he was accidentally prevented from leading the brigade into Bloemfontein. He promised that it should be the first to enter Pretoria. The Colonial Scouts are working to the northward of Bloemfontein. The nearest Boer scouts are reported to be 13 miles away.

After the Union Jack had been hoisted on the Presidency, Lord Roberts visited the gaol, where he released four prisoners who had refused to fight against the British. Then that portion of the troops necessary to man the northern heights began to march through the town, amid the cheers of the people. When the horse batteries passed the contrast between the well-armed citizens and the exhausted and worn-out gunners, who sat their horses and caissons without a sign of emotion was most striking.

By this time the plain outside the town was gradually filling with infantry regiments and immense transport convoys which seemed to overrun the ground like water. Gradually out of the chaos order emerged, each brigade and transport establishing itself in its proper position in long straight lines, miles in extent. From the higher kopjes near the town to far beyond could be seen a long yellow serpent, representing a regiment after regiment of khaki-clad troops marching on the town.

GAVE UP THEIR ARMS

Boers Also Giving Up Themselves and Their Cannon.

THE GRIM SIEGE OF MAFEKING

British Going to Their Relief Report Good Progress—The Garrison is Hard Pressed But Determined—Plumer's Force Not Far Away Now—800 Free Staters Surrender at Edenberg.

London, March 19.—The War Office received the following despatch from Lord Roberts, dated Bloemfontein, Sunday, March 18: "The Guards' brigade returned yesterday from Norval's Pont. Several burghers have laid down their arms to General Pole-Carew at Edinburg and elsewhere. The officer commanding at Belmont reports that some deserters have come in with a Maxim, a nine-pounder and another gun. Another nine-pounder has been brought into Colesberg. The cavalry brigade has gone to Thaba Nchu in order to reassure the inhabitants of the district and to distribute copies of the proclamation to the Free State. These proclamations are being eagerly sought after.

"Lord Methuen reached Warrenton on March 16. He was in time to prevent the deviation bridge from being completely destroyed and to secure the pont on the Vaal.

"The English mail was despatched from here by rail yesterday, and tomorrow the regular railway service with Cape Town will be re-opened. Mafeking reports that all was well on March 6."

Biggarsberg Impregnable.

Glencoe, Natal, Thursday, March 15, via Lorenzo Marquez, Friday, March 16.—The Boer defences along the Biggarsberg have been completed, and are said to render the position impregnable.

800 FREE STATERS SUBMITTED.

Pole-Carew's Force Returns to Bloemfontein From Springfontein.

Bloemfontein, Saturday, March 17.—Gen. Pole-Carew's force has returned from Springfontein, where a junction was effected with General Gatcaze.

Gen. Pole-Carew also proceeded to Norval's Pont, from which points he telegraphed to Gen. Clements that 800 Free Staters had submitted at Edenberg.

BOER RIFLES COMING IN FAST.

Being Surrendered Faster Than a Factory Could Turn Them Out.

London, March 19.—A despatch to The Daily Mail from Bloemfontein, dated Friday, March 10, says: "We are getting rifles surrendered faster than a factory could turn them out. It is quite certain that if a British official can reach the northern laagers with Lord Roberts' proclamation, the whole Boer population will declare peace."

Ready to Accept Peace.

London, March 19.—A despatch to The Daily News from Bloemfontein, dated Friday, March 16, says: "Events have occurred which induce us to predict that the war will only last so long as it takes to march to Pretoria. The educated Boers, even the Transvaalers, are ready to accept the inevitable. I am told that a corps of 2,000 women has been formed at Pretoria. It is called the Amazon corps. All the members are uniformed in kilts and are armed."

SIEGE OF MAFEKING.

Garrison Holding Out on Quarter Rations on the 10th of March—The Natives Are Armed.

Lorenzo Marquez, Sunday, March 18.—A despatch from Mafeking, dated Saturday, March 10, says: "The garrison is holding its own. We have heard numerous rumors that the siege will be raised, but so far that is not the case. We are pegging away patiently on quarter rations, supplemented by the occasional capture of cattle. Our home-made gun erratically bombards the Boer trenches. Horrible stories are current that the Boers are inflicting nameless tortures upon captured native runners. These may not be true, but they are tending to inflame native passions to such an extent that it may soon be impossible to hold the natives in check.

"Owing to the Boers having deliberately bombarded the native stadt, which is full of women and children, Col. Baden-Powell has armed the natives, but he has only allowed them to act on the defensive, although they have clamored to be allowed to go out and attack at the point of the assegai.

"They will be prevented as long as possible from inflicting reprisals on the Boers."

Siege Has Not Been Raised.

Pretoria, Friday, March 16.—It is officially denied that the siege of Mafeking has been raised or the town relieved.

More Boers for Mafeking.

Lobatani, Saturday, March 10.—It is reported that Commandant El-off, with a commando, has left Zerust for Mafeking.

Commandant Schakeitz, with 150

men, is threatening the railway near Aasvogel kop, north of Lobatani. A British patrol, which reconnoitred within 14 miles of Mafeking, found the railway uninjured and the telegraph wires untouched north of Pitsani.

The Relief at Warrenton.

Cape Town, March 18.—The mounted force from Kimberley proceeding to the relief of Mafeking, has arrived at Warrenton. As the force passed Warrenton the Boers evacuated the town, blowing up the bridge. It is reported that the rebels who refused to accompany the Transvaalers when the latter vacated Taung and Vryburg are preparing to trek into Damaraaland on the approach of the British, but that the Hottentot chiefs are getting ready to bar their escape.

ONLY TRANSSVAAL BOERS WILL GO.

Free Staters Will Be Kept at Cape Town—Others to St. Helena.

London, March 19.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Cape Town, dated Saturday, says it has been decided to send the Transvaalers only to St. Helena, the authorities finding it difficult to prevent conflicts between the Free Staters and the Transvaalers.

Col. Schiel, the German officer who was captured in Natal in the early part of the war, has a special sentry at his door to prevent him from doing himself bodily violence.

70 Boer Prisoners Sick.

Cape Town, March 17.—The departure of the transports with the Boer prisoners for St. Helena has been delayed on account of the fact that 70 Boers are sick, including many infectious cases. The authorities are striving to complete the isolated hospital by Wednesday, and the transports will probably sail that day.

Kruger Growing Unpopular.

London, March 19.—The Naples correspondent of The Daily Mail telegraphs an interview he has had with Mr. Webster Davis, United States Assistant Secretary of the Interior. According to this Mr. Davis said: "When I left Pretoria the Boers were becoming desirous of peace. President Kruger and Gen. Joubert were the strongest opponents of the peace party, but they were becoming exceedingly unpopular. I do not believe the Boers will resist much longer."

Reitz Admits It's Serious.

London, March 19.—The correspondent of The Times at Lorenzo Marquez, telegraphing under date of March 16, says:

"State Secretary of the Transvaal, in the course of an interview, has said that the Transvaal Government considers the American reply highly satisfactory, and that he believes the United States will bring such pressure to bear as will result in a settlement agreeable to the people of the two republics.

While admitting the seriousness of the situation, Mr. Reitz says he is convinced that the burghers of both republics will defend the independence of the Transvaal to the last.

The Boer Casualties.

Pretoria, Friday, March 16.—The chief of the Intelligence Department, Molengraaf, announced that the federal losses, prior to the relief of Kimberley and Ladysmith were: Killed 677, wounded 2,129, accidents, sickness and other disabling causes, he asserts bring the total to 4,351.

NEWS SATISFACTORY.

Relief of Mafeking Thought to Be Extremely Probable To Cut Off the Boers at Thaba.

London, March 19.—4.30 a.m.—The news from South Africa to-day is entirely satisfactory to the British public. The relief of Mafeking is not yet announced, but it is extremely probable that this is already accomplished by Col. Plumer's advance. Lady Charles Bentinck at Cape Town has received a telegram from her husband in Mafeking, dated March 12, saying that he expected to join her shortly.

The actual relief movements have not been published in detail, but it seems that Lord Methuen only started very recently, and is rather engaged in dispersing the Boers of the district than aiming at actual relief. Col. Peckham has dispersed 500 Boers at Fourteen Streams.

Lord Roberts probably ascertained from Mr. Fraser, the new Mayor of Bloemfontein, before despatching Gen. Pole-Carew southward, that in all likelihood, the railway was clear. The next move will be to collect at Bloemfontein by railway sufficient stores for the immense army Lord Roberts will have when the Orange River forces have joined him. This will probably occupy from two to three weeks. Therefore, the next important operations may be expected in Natal.

The cavalry brigade which Lord Roberts has sent to Thaba Nchu, 35 miles east of Bloemfontein, is destined to cut off some 2,000 Boers who are escaping from the southward. The Boers are reported to have destroyed the railway in the neighborhood of Kroonstadt.

Lord Kitchener is still quietly organizing in the northeast of Cape Colony. Predictions and betting are beginning here that the war will be ended by the middle of May.

Hot Fight at Fourteen Streams.

Cape Town, Sunday, March 18.—The Mafeking relief column, Colonels Drummond and Peckham commanding, had a sharp engagement at Fourteen Streams. The British succeeded in driving the Boers off. They had only a few casualties.

MARKETS OF THE WORLD

Prices of Grain, Cattle, Cheese, &c. in the Leading Markets.

Toronto, March 20.—There was a better tone to the market to-day, and a fair amount of business was done.

The export trade continues dull, affected by the depressing cables from the United Kingdom and difficulties of space on the steamers. Prices range from 41-4 to 43-4c, with choice selections selling up to 5c, but this price is only occasionally obtained.

Good butcher cattle was firmer and sold briskly, but much of the ordinary stuff was held at too high a price and left over. Tuesday's values are not quotably changed. For good to choice butcher cattle the range was from 33-4 to 41-4c per lbs, but correct quotations for medium and common stuff were not easy to obtain.

Feeders, stockers, export bulls, and light bulls were unchanged, and only in moderate request. For stockers there was perhaps a little better enquiry.

Choice lambs and good veal calves were wanted to-day.

Lambs are quoted at from 41-2 to 6c per lb, with from an eighth to a quarter more for choice samples.

Sheep were selling well to-day at from 3 to 33-4c per lb.

A few good milkers are wanted. About one thousand hogs came in prices steady and unchanged.

For prime hogs, scaling from 160 to 200 lbs., the top price is 51-2c; light and fat hogs are bringing 47-8c per lb.

Following is the range of quotations:—

Cattle.	
Shippers, per cwt.	\$ 425 \$ 500
Butcher, choice do.	375 425
Butcher, med. to good.	325 350
Butcher, inferior.	275 300
Stockers, per cwt.	275 350
Sheep and Lambs.	
Sheep, per cwt.	300 375
Lambs, per cwt.	450 600
Bucks, per cwt.	225 275
Milkers and Calves.	
Cows, each.	2500 4500
Calves, each.	200 1000
Hogs.	
Choice hogs, per cwt.	500 550
Light hogs, per cwt.	425 487 1-4
Heavy hogs, per cwt.	425 487 1-4
Sows.	300 325
Stags.	200 225

Toronto, March 20.—Wheat—Outside wheat markets were quite strong during the day, but closed off from the best. The local market was firm Ontario red and white, 65 to 65 1-2c, according to nearness to the mill, Western Ontario points; and 65 1-2 to 66c, east; goose wheat, 69c, low 65 to 65 1-2c; Manitoba, No. 1 hard, 79 1-2c, North Bay; and at 80 1-2 to 81c, g.i.t.

Flour—Quiet, but firm. Outside millers offer straight roller, in buyers bags, middle freights, at \$2.60 per bbl. and export agents bid \$2.55. Special brands in wood, for local account sell from \$2.85 to \$3, according to brand.

Millfeed—Quiet and firm. Bran is quoted at \$15, to \$15.50, and shorts at \$16 to \$17, at the mill door through Western Ontario.

Corn—Firm. No. 2 American, yellow, quoted at 42 1-2c to 43c, track, Toronto, and mixed, at 41 1-2 to 42c. Canadian corn scarce and firm at 42c track, Toronto.

Peas—Steady. Car lots, 61 1-2c north and west, and 62 1-2c east.

Barley—Export demand continues good. Choice heavy malting barley is taken readily. Car lots, No. 2, middle freights, 42 1-2c and east at 43 1-2c; No. 1 is quoted at 44 to 45c, outside.

Rye—Firm. Car lots, 51c west, and 52c east.

Oats—Demand quiet. White oats north and west, 27c; middle freights 27 1-2c, and east, 28c.

Buckwheat—Quiet. Offerings light. Car lots, outside, quoted at 49 to 50c.

Buffalo, March 20. Spring Wheat—No. 1 hard, carloads, 77 1-2c; round lots 77c; No. 1, round lots, 74 1-2c. Winter wheat—No offerings. Corn—Unsettled weak; No. 2, yellow, 42 3-4c; No. 3 yellow, 42 1-2c; No. 2 corn, 42 1-4c; No. 1 corn, 42c asked. Oats—Dull; No. 1 white, 30c; No. 3 white, 30c; No. 3 white, 29 1-2c; No. 4 white, 29c; No. 2 mixed, 27c; mixed, 27 1-2c asked. Flour—Dull and easy.

Duluth, March 20.—Wheat—No. 1 hard, cash, 66 3-4c; May, 67 3-4c; No. 1 Northern, cash, 65 1-4c; May 66 1-4c; July, 67 1-8c; No. 2 Northern, 62 3-4c; No. 3 spring wheat, 59 1-2c. Oats—23 1-2 to 24c. Corn—35c.

Minneapolis, March 20.—Wheat—March, 64 3-4c; May, 64 1-4c; July, 65 1-4 to 65 3-8c; on track, No. 1 hard, 66 1-4c; No. 1 Northern, 64 3-4c; No. 2 Northern, 63 1-4c.

Chicago, March 20.—Both wheat and corn took a step in the wrong direction to-day, wheat closing 1-4c lower, and corn at a decline of 3-8c. Primary receipts totalled 590,000 bush. Chicago receipts were 35 cars; North-West receipts were 562 cars, compared with 524 last week and 279 a year ago. Atlantic port clearances amounted to only 256,000 bush. Receipts, estimated for Friday—Wheat, 63 cars; corn, 435 cars; oats, 270 cars; hogs, 25,000.

LEINSTERS LEAVE MARCH 25.

Canada's militia will Garrison Halifax From That Date On.

A despatch from Halifax, N.S., says:—The Leinster Regiment are under orders to sail for England from this garrison on March 25th, by the Dominion line steamer Vancouver. When the Leinesters march out of the barracks the Canadian militia enrolled for one year will march in.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Notes of Proceedings in the National Legislature.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Mr. Casgrain was informed by Mr. Mulock that the Government has constructed 221 miles of telegraph line on the north shore of the St. Lawrence. The line, when completed, will extend to Chateau bay, a total distance of 320 miles. It is expected to be finished next July.

Mr. Casgrain was informed by the Premier that the Government considers itself bound to give effect to the Act of the Quebec Legislature increasing the number of the judges of the Supreme Court from 31 to 34, provided the Legislature has not acted improvidently.

Mr. Casey was informed by Mr. Mulock that the Government was not yet aware that any Australian Governments had granted concessions to the Eastern Extension Company. It was hoped that none such would be made as would warrant a change in the compact between the respective Governments.

Mr. Clarke was informed that there are no negotiations now in progress between the Governments of Canada and the United States looking to the resumption of the meetings of the joint commission appointed to adjust all differences between Canada and the United States.

Sir Richard Cartwright informed Mr. Fraser, of Lambton, that the contract for an improved service between Canada and the British West Indies goes into force on the 1st of July next.

Mr. Bell, of East Prince, was informed by Mr. Blair that the number of miles of railway in operation in Canada are as follows:—Ontario, 6,779; Quebec, 3,312; New Brunswick, 1,420; Nova Scotia, 901; Prince Edward Island, 210; Manitoba, 1,563; British Columbia, 1,129; North-West Territories, 1,928. Total, 17,250 miles.

Mr. Blair said that the Government had not yet decided as to whether the Government system of railways would be extended westerly beyond Montreal.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier told Mr. Cowan that the Government has under consideration a proposal to provide for a revision of the Dominion statutes.

Mr. McMullen was informed by Sir Wilfrid Laurier that the total cost of administering the Dominion Franchise Act during all the years that it was in operation was \$1,156,261.89, less \$15,444.96 received from the sale of voters' lists, making the net total \$1,141,316.93.

Sir Richard Cartwright stated, in reply to Mr. Fraser, of Lambton, that the amount of subsidy paid for the establishment and maintenance of a line of steamships between Canada and Manchester up to June 30 last was \$26,000. Since then no account had been rendered for services and no payments had been made.

In answer to Mr. Campbell, the Premier said that the number of cases heard by the Supreme Court in each year were: 1895-6, 72 cases; 1896-7, 77 cases; 1897-8, 81 cases; 1898-9, 89 cases; 1899 to date, 22 cases. The court sat the following number of days in each year:—1895-6, 70 days; 1896-7, 66 days; 1897-8, 71 days; 1898-9, 62 days; 1899 to date, 35 days. He also gave the number of days on which each of the Judges sat.

In answer to Mr. Prior, Mr. Mulock said that an increase has been made to the provisional allowance given to the postoffice clerks and letter-carriers of the Victoria Postoffice of \$5 a month, to employees whose salary was not more than \$800 a year, in consequence of the increased cost of living in British Columbia.

YUKON TELEGRAPHS AND ROADS.

Mr. Prior inquired whether it is a fact that Mr. Charleson, when engaged on the construction of the Government telegraph line to Dawson City, had brought large quantities of supplies from Ottawa instead of purchasing them in British Columbia, and that the men whom he employed were chiefly French-Canadians from the east.

Mr. Mulock, replying on behalf of the Minister of Public Works, and that these matters were not within Mr. Tarte's knowledge, because Mr. Charleson, in view of the success which had attended his management of the construction of the line, had been allowed to use his own discretion in purchasing supplies and in engaging men. Mr. Mulock also said that the Government did not at present contemplate building a line from Dawson to Circle City, 50 miles, because there was no vote out of which to take the cost of such construction.

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPHS.

Some discussion occurred over a bill introduced by Mr. Casey for the establishment of a Government system of telegraphs. The measure which he proposes is not very definite. On one point Mr. Casey was specific. He wants the telegraphic rates made ten cents per ten words for private messages, and ten cents a hundred words for press despatches.

TARTE'S PARIS TRIP.

Sir Charles Tupper inquired whether the Premier was prepared to give the House any statement with regard to the representation of Canada at the Paris Exhibition. Sir Charles pointed out that, inasmuch as the Minister of Public Works had gone to Paris and was said to have gone as the representative of Canada, it was time that the House should be taken into the confidence of the Government in the matter.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier replied that the Government had come to the conclusion that they would appoint the Minister of Public Works chief commissioner of Canada at the Exhibition. He added that Mr. Tarte went, of course, without any salary, and the Government had rather reluctantly decided to let him go, because, though they were loath to part with his services during the session, yet it was well known that Mr. Tarte was not in good health. In fact, his health was in such condition that his friends had thought it advisable to press upon him to take a rest. Mr. Tarte, however, had thought that a change of labor would give him sufficient rest for the present, and, therefore, the Government had appointed him to represent Canada at Paris, feeling that he was quite able to fulfil the duties of the office.

KRUGER LOSING HIS HOLD.

The Transvaal Burghers Are Returning to Their Farms.

A despatch from London, says:—The correspondent of the Daily News at Lorenzo Marquez states that persons who have recently arrived from Pretoria declare that the Boers admit that their cause is hopeless.

Lucas Meyer, it is said, has refused to continue fighting, and returned to his farm.

Commandant Schalkburgher has done the same.

The burghers are returning to their homes by hundreds.

These statements need confirmation, but if they are true, it is clear that President Kruger is losing his hold.

THE CANADIAN HOSPITAL

Our Red Cross Doing Splendid Work at Kimberley.

A despatch from Kimberley, says:—The Canadian Red Cross is doing splendid work. It has installed 200 cots in the De Beers hospital and 90 cots filled with Canadians in the Masonic temple.