

PANIC IN PRETORIA. IS ROBERTS THERE?

Roberts Tells of Occupation of Johannesburg

AND OF MOVING ON PRETORIA.

**Belief That the Capital is Now His—Boers Left Three Guns in Johannesburg
Fort—Queenlanders Captured Another With Twelve Wagons of Ammunition—A Hundred Prisoners Taken—Boers Report Successful Fights Against Roberts' Troops—De Wet Cuts British Communications—More Heavy Fighting in the Free State.**

London, June 2.—There is not a word of news concerning South Africa from official sources, and there is practically nothing from other sources except the despatch from Pretoria, which is the main feature in all the London papers. Curiosity is expressed as to the interpretation to be put upon the reference in this despatch to the arrival at Pretoria of prisoners from a fight near Lindley. It is surmised that it refers to an engagement between Gen. Buller and a Boer force on May 24th, four miles northeast of Senekal, which was followed on May 25th by an advance and an attack on the Boers' camp, the northwestern part of which was captured by the British. The Boers made a plucky stand. They had two guns and a pom-pom. The action assumed considerable proportions, the fighting continuing all day. Further fighting on May 30th led to the British reoccupation of Lindley.

Panic at Pretoria.
Pretoria, May 30, by messenger to Lorenzo Marquez, June 1.—A panic seems to have seized a large number of the population. The general idea is doing their utmost to rally the men of the fighting commandos, but the number of the British troops is too overwhelming. It is not believed that any defence of Pretoria will be made. Under the present circumstances, it would be a reckless waste of life and destruction of property. Kruger and Reitz will probably leave for Lydenburg to-morrow. The last meeting of the Executive Council was held at the Presidency this afternoon. Matters of vast importance were under discussion. Railway communication has been cut off with Johannesburg since noon today. When the last train got through it was fired on near Germiston. It is reported that looting on an extensive scale is proceeding on the Rand to-day. The British are reported to be at Platkop, close to Standerton. A number of British prisoners arrived here to-day from Lindley.

With Gen. Rundle.
Wynburg, May 31.—After considerable fighting the Boers, with two guns and several Maxim-Nordenföldt guns, are making a plucky stand eight miles east of Senekal. General Rundle has succeeded in driving off the Federals, thus permitting, unopposed, the reoccupation of Lindley.

Praise for Girouard.
The Toronto Evening Telegram has the following special yesterday: "London, May 31.—Julian Ripon, the well-known war correspondent, in a letter to the Daily Mail, speaks in high terms of Major Girouard's work in the management of railway construction in South Africa. Major Girouard is a son of Justice Girouard, of Ottawa."

Roberts' Communications Cut.
Lorenzo Marquez, June 1.—Official Boer news has been received here to the effect that the communications of the main British army have been cut near the Vaal River. Heavy fighting is reported at Elandsfontein. The Boers have re-occupied the town of Senekal, and are engaged near Ventersburg and Harriesmith. Direct communication with Durban has been broken. President Kruger's son-in-law, Frickie Eloff, and the President's physician, Dr. Heamann, have arrived at Lorenzo Marquez.

Did Not Cross Vaal.
London, June 2.—According to a despatch from Vereeniging, dated May 27th, none of the Free State Boers crossed the Vaal River. President Steyn and a certain number of his followers are reported to have fled to Vrede.

Mahon John Hunter.
London, June 2.—An undated despatch to the Daily Telegraph from Mafeking, sent by way of Kimberley, on Thursday says that part of Col. Mahon's relief column is lying to the east of Gen. Hunter's main force at Marigob junction, where they were expected to arrive Thursday. The combined force will then probably advance to Loftsburg.

Surrendering Daily.
Newcastle, Natal, May 31.—There is a general dispersal of the Boers in this district. Large numbers of the burghers surrender daily. Trustworthy reports say the Boers are totally demoralized.

People's Congress Meets.
Cape Town, May 31.—The People's Congress opened at Grand Reinet today with an attendance of 800 delegates. Mr. De Villiers, a brother of the chief justice, presided. Mrs. Conwright Schreiner, sister-in-law of the Prime Minister, and several members of the Cape House were in attendance. A resolution was adopted to the effect that the congress represented a majority of the residents of Cape Colony.

London, June 2.—Lord Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War, has received the following from Lord Roberts:

of war behind Lord Roberts points to a great effort last week to paralyze his advance from the eastward at the railway north of Bloemfontein. No loss than four Boer columns were in a movement seemingly with this object. There was a commando in front of General Brabant, near Ficksburg, another faced General Rundle near Senekal, a third occupied Lindley and passed toward the railway, and a fourth seized Heilbron and pushed toward Kromstad. These operations, assuming there to have been independent, all appear to have failed.

The revival of the Boer fighting powers east of Lord Roberts' advance, although fruitless, is a symptom that the Boers are not yet crushed. In Gen. Rundle's attack on the entrenched Boers, seven miles east of Senekal, May 29, the British did not see a Boer all day, so completely were they screened. The British infantry did not get within 1,000 yards of their riflemen. The 182 losses wired by Lord Roberts were suffered by the Grenadiers and Scots Guards, while advancing over a level from which the grass had been burned. The British in khaki were conspicuous targets against the black background. Gen. Rundle withdrew his whole force at sundown to Senekal, having succeeded in drawing the Boers from Lindley, allowing the threatened force to get away safely. The Boers sent to the British for medical help, saying that Commandant de Villiers was seriously wounded. Gen. Rundle sent a doctor, with a bottle of champagne and his compliments, as well as a message that he would release all the Boer prisoners at Senekal.

Pretoria Panic Stricken.
Pretoria, noon, May 31, via Lorenzo Marquez, June 2, 1.30 p. m.—The panic commencing after the departure of President Kruger and State Secretary Reitz for Lydenburg, an extraordinary state of panic has prevailed here. The functions of government have been completely suspended. Yesterday's issue of treasury notes by the authorities is condemned by a majority of the public as being absolutely needless, as over a million gold sovereigns were shipped from here the same day for Lydenburg. There is a bitter feeling among the officials, whose salary cheques for May, which were issued on May 29th, were dishonored. This leaves the greater number of them with their families without means. Altogether, chaos reigns in official circles.

A panic was caused yesterday afternoon by a report that President Kruger had ordered the commanding officer of all the remaining gold and silver in the banks for Government purposes. It was said that the banks were to be raided at midnight by a special commando.

BRITAIN'S "HEAVENLY TWINS."
The portraits of Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener are shown side by side, with the caption "BRITAIN'S 'HEAVENLY TWINS.'" The portraits are detailed and show the men in military uniform.

On the Road to Pretoria.
London, June 3.—The War Office has received the following despatch from General Roberts: "Johannesburg, June 1, 8.30 a. m. On May 31 the occupation of the town passed off quite satisfactorily. The Boer commandos are being arranged by Dr. Krause, the Transvaal commandant here, order prevails throughout the town. 'Krause met me at the entrance to Johannesburg and took me to the Government offices, where he introduced me to the heads of the several departments, all of whom acceded to my request that they should continue their duties until they could be relieved. 'Johannesburg is very empty, but a good crowd assembled in the main square by the time the British flag was hoisted with a royal salute. Three cheers for the Queen were then given. At the end of the ceremony the eleventh and seventh divisions marched past with the naval brigade. The divisions of the Royal Field Artillery, the mounted infantry, and the division of mounted infantry, were too far away to partake in the ceremony. The troops looked very workmanlike, and evinced a keen interest in the proceedings. The fourteenth division and Wavell's brigade have been left behind at Senekal and Bloemfontein are being re-occupied. The remainder of the force is encamped north of the town on the Pretoria road.'"

French at Irene.
London, June 1.—There is no direct news from Pretoria. It is believed that Thursday evening General French's cavalry were then at Irene, eight miles south of Pretoria, and firing was heard there. Lord Roberts' messages about secondary operations elsewhere and the situation at Johannesburg, dated Orange Grove, a farm four miles northeast of Johannesburg, show that on Saturday at 9.10 a. m. he was 25 miles from Pretoria.

The correspondents with Lord Roberts have not got through a line about the operations after the re-occupation of Johannesburg. Official messages continue to come through, but press telegrams are held up, probably to avoid giving a hint as to what may be the pending operations. From the other side there are reports through Lorenzo Marquez a mass of statements, some contradictory, others obviously improbable, but the following purporting to be facts: "Passengers arriving at Lorenzo Marquez Saturday, direct from Pretoria, say that the capital was peacefully surrendered when they left Thursday. The forts were dismantled. The Boer guard at Kromstadport searched all trains and turned back most of the fugitives, among them deserting foreigners who were striving to reach neutral soil. Immense 'Boer' convoys of provisions are between Pretoria and Middleburg. Fifteen trains are sent daily to Machadadorp with supplies for the refugees as in a state of indescribable chaos. The populace are dismayed, and the British are expected hourly. Some foreign attaches have arrived at Lorenzo Marquez to communicate with their Governments for orders to leave, as they consider that organized war on the Transvaal side is at an end. Firing among the Boers is reported that the British have been beaten back at Lindley with heavy loss, that the main attack on Elandsfontein failed, and Lord Roberts was forced to retire to Kips-Riverberg, that the railway has been cut behind him south of Vereeniging, and that a provision train has been captured. Without crediting any of these Boer bulletins, everything from the field

north, and I therefore believe more firmly than before that no defence of Pretoria will be made. Last night's Volksstem, the official organ of the Transvaal, states that the capital is being shelled and that there is a prospect that they will be taken. Gen. De Wet, with 8,000 men, occupied Viljoen's Britz yesterday. His sole object is to cut and harass the British lines near that point. The last train is just going out toward Delagoa Bay. There are indescribable scenes of confusion in the town. The banks are being guarded. All the Government stores are being looted by the burghers. Foreign residents and members of the fighting commandos are rushing through the city. Chaos and confusion reign supreme. Ten thousand burghers defend the approach to the city. It is expected that a battle will be fought at Six-Mile Spruit at any moment. The residents of the town have formed a special corps to protect property from looters. President Kruger has left Belfast for Lydenburg. Numerous British mounted infantry patrols are approaching from various directions. Gen. de la Poer is reported to be on the Rustenburg road. It is also said that Gen. French is half way here on the road from Johannesburg. A deputation, consisting of Burgomasters Potgieter and Beckett, say that Mr. Marks has gone out to surrender the town of Johannesburg to Lord Roberts. The Boer commandos are retreating. The Delagoa Bay Railway line is still intact, but British scouts are reported to be south of Brankburspruit. There is tremendous excitement here, and everyone is hoping that the great strain will soon be ended.

Kruger's Departure.
Pretoria, May 30, by messenger to Lorenzo Marquez, June 1.—At the request of the Transvaal Government twenty British officers, who are prisoners here, proceeded today to Westval station, where 6,000 British prisoners are quartered. The officers were sent there to keep order among the men, who are very much excited over the approach of their comrades toward the capital.

The remaining town burghers have gone to the suburbs to guard the approach to the city. President Kruger, State Secretary Reitz and other high officials left for Middleburg during last night (Tuesday). There was a solemn and affecting scene at the railway station. Men and women went as the train drew out. The President was as calm as usual.

Intended to Raid Banks.
Pretoria, May 31, noon (by favor of Richard Harding Davis, to Delagoa Bay, June 3, 8.45 a. m.)—Since the departure of President Kruger and State Secretary Reitz for Lydenburg, an extraordinary state of panic has prevailed here. The functions of government have been completely suspended. Yesterday's issue of treasury notes by the authorities is condemned by a majority of the public as being absolutely needless, as over a million gold sovereigns were shipped from here the same day for Lydenburg. There is a bitter feeling among the officials, whose salary cheques for May, which were issued on May 29th, were dishonored. This leaves the greater number of them with their families without means. Altogether, chaos reigns in official circles.

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Elandsfontein Fighting.
Pretoria, May 30, by Lorenzo Marquez, June 2.—The rapid advance of the British toward Johannesburg was checked yesterday, when fierce fighting, which lasted all day, took place round Elandsfontein. The Boerburg and Johannesburg commandos especially distinguished themselves, performing many deeds of valor. They were under Commandant van Viljoen, and Commandant Berks. The East Rand Boer artillery did fearful execution among the English. They had a Long Tom mounted on a railway truck, which manoeuvred with extraordinary rapidity along the railway. This gun threw shrapnel a distance of six miles, and its fire demoralized the British. It is stated here that the British casualties exceeded those of any previous battle of the war. It is reported that President Steyn and Gen. Christiana De Wet have arrived in the vicinity of Kromstad. A force of Orange Free State Boers east of Bloemfontein. They are threatening the lines of communication of the British. The troops approaching Johannesburg from west of the Rand were repulsed to-day. They retired to Zurbekon, 2-1/2 hours from Johannesburg, to await the arrival of the British from other directions. Considerable alarm was caused here by a report, which subsequently proved to be false, that the Makapan and other Kaffirs in the Waterberg

district had become involved in tribal fights. Telegraphic communication with Johannesburg is still intact.

Tried to Blow Up the Mines.
New York, June 2.—The Sun has the following special: "Johannesburg, May 30. In desperate rider to Pretoria, and in Lorenzo Marquez, June 2, 1.30 p. m.—Judge Kock, who attempted to blow up the mines yesterday, was arrested by Special Commandant Dr. Krause. He was placed in jail on the charge of incendiarism.

Fighting in Free State.
London, June 4.—Nothing has been read from the Transvaal from any source later than Gen. Roberts' despatches, the latest of which is dated Saturday, 9.10 p. m. Orange Grove, from which place Gen. Roberts telegraphs, is a pleasure resort three miles and a half north of Johannesburg, and his continuance there and his silence Sunday seems to indicate that Pretoria has not yet fallen.

There is every reason for regarding the stand the Boers are making in the eastern part of the Orange Free State as serious for the British. The fighting there has been heavy and determined, and it is at least conceivable that Gen. Roberts is waiting at Orange Grove, until he is satisfied that his return south with reinforcements will be unnecessary. The return of Gen. De Wet and President Steyn to the vicinity of Kromstad, and the expressions of the Boer leaders last week suggest an intention to deal an important blow, probably aiming to cripple Gen. Rundle and Brabant and to destroy the railway behind Gen. Roberts.

The latest news from Gen. Buller is dated June 1st, when the Boers were still comfortably settled at Laings Nek. Nothing has been heard from Gen. Buller and Lyttelton since they occupied Utrecht and Vryheid, respectively. It is assumed that they may be moving north towards the railway between Pretoria and Lorenzo Marquez.

The Fight Near Douglas.
London, June 2.—A Cape Town despatch dated Thursday gives more details of the fighting at Douglas, Cape Colony, in which a number of British soldiers were killed by Cape rebels. It is said that last Tuesday Gen. Sir Charles Warren, the governor of Griqualand West, with 700 men, occupied a strong defensive position at Faber spruit, near Douglas. At dawn on Wednesday 1,000 rebels surrounded the position and after a long and desperate struggle, they were repulsed. The British quickly concentrated and repulsed the rebels. A small party that was holding a garden continued to fight manfully, and only evacuated the position when the volunteer rifles started a charge. The British lost 15 killed, including Col. Spence, and 30 wounded.

Schreiner May Resign.
Cape Town, June 1, 4.20 p. m.—Rumors are current to the effect that delegates of the Afrikaner Bond met with Mr. Schreiner for the purpose of considering a bill providing for the trial of rebels. The delegates, who were supported by the extreme wing of the Ministry, disapproved the draft of a bill that had been prepared by Mr. Schreiner. It is stated that this action will cause the Prime Minister's resignation when Parliament meets.

The Sanitary Board of the Cape Town Council has reported that the complaints concerning the unsanitary condition of the camp occupied by the Boer prisoners are absolutely groundless.

Future Government.
London, June 2.—There is little discussion in the English press regarding the future government of the Boer territories. No objection is raised to the announced programme of annexation. Military governments will be succeeded by the civil administration at the soonest possible moment. It is generally believed that Gen. Roberts will be allowed to return almost immediately after the war is ended. The chances are that Sir Alfred Milner will be Governor of all British South Africa except Natal, transferring his headquarters, temporarily at least, to Pretoria, Johannesburg, or Bloemfontein.

Is the Army in Pretoria?
London, June 2.—If the British army is not now in Pretoria it is because Gen. Roberts is not aware of the practically defenceless condition of the capital as described in the latest despatches. The war, in the ordinary sense of the word, has practically ceased, but it is evident that a desperate section of the defeated people will keep up resistance to the end.

The only real information as to the situation is contained in the remarkable series of despatches which the Mail's correspondents have succeeded in forwarding by train to Lorenzo Marquez since the Transvaal Executive departed on Wednesday morning. His last message is dated on Thursday noon, and came by what was announced to be the last train leaving for Delagoa Bay. It effectively disposes of the Earl of Roberts' promise and announcement that the British were about to enter the town on Wednesday.

If all as well as telegraphic communication with Pretoria is now cut off, it is quite likely that the Mail's correspondent's next message will come over British lines after he has done hands with his colleagues with General Roberts' army. There is a good deal of anxiety in London over the report that 8,000 Boers have cut General Roberts' communications at the Vaal River. It would not be a serious disaster if the situation as a whole, if any isolated force of Boers had succeeded in getting behind the British advance guard, for Pretoria is unquestionably at the command of the British advance guard, if not already occupied. The problem of dealing with scattered Boer forces, except such as have gathered in the Lydenburg district, is comparatively simple.

Death of Mrs. Hague.
Montreal, June 1.—Mrs. Hague, wife of George Hague, general manager of the Merchants' Bank of Canada, died at the family residence in this city this morning.

By the Judgment of Justice Mathews in the Queen's Bench in England insurance companies will have to pay their policies on gold requisitioned by the Transvaal just prior to the outbreak of the war.

KRUGER STILL BOER PRESIDENT.
Salisbury Will Recognize Only Oom Paul.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?
Talk About the Generals by a Hater of Buller—Wireless Telegraphy—The Majestic and the Torpedo—Cannon Buys Castle Blaney.

London, June 2.—Popular opinion has proclaimed the advent of victory in South Africa. The nation has made up its mind that the war is over, that the prestige of British arms is restored, that President Kruger is vanquished, that peace territory has been annexed, that humanity has not been staggered, and that let by that little St. Gaius, "Bois," Great Britain's army has fulfilled the most optimistic expectations. Nevertheless, among the few more serious-minded who have not been lulled by the news of the plans of the War Office there exist grave apprehensions.

of developments in the near future. In the systematic retreat of the Boers they see the possibility of long drawn-out guerrilla fighting, which into Rhodesia, internal disorganization in the Transvaal due to kindles, and a thousand and one lawless elements that evade themselves from a heterogeneous army after it comes to become an organized body. Some of the most astute authorities on South African matters, say Major-General Frederick Carrington's work in Rhodesia may only begin when Lord Roberts finishes. The preponderance of numbers is bound to eventually reduce the inhabitants to submission, and, with the occupation of Pretoria and Johannesburg being followed by operations similar to those undertaken by the Boers, now under the leadership of Brabant in the Orange River Colony.

Kruger's Status.
The personal status of President Kruger since the capture of the capital is creating some discussion. A representative of the Associated Press learns that Lord Salisbury will consider him to be President of the South African Republic, and that Lord Roberts is ready to annex that territory. On one thing the British Government is determined, i.e. President Kruger cannot stay in the Transvaal. His capture of his capture he must be transported, but necessarily in duress; but he must be got out of the territory which is to be part of the British Empire.

A Buller Hater.
One of the most curious features of the closing chapters of the great war is the oblivion into which Gen. Buller has fallen. Generals French and Hamlyn and others are now more frequently talked of and cheered than the former commander-in-chief, who seems to have become a negligible quantity in the shadow of the Big game. It is not surprising that the Queen's disposal through the death of the Duke of Argyll are the least rewards that could be bestowed on him.

Used Wireless Telegraphy.
One evidence of Lord Roberts' capability is his use to which he put wireless telegraphy. While Buller, White and other generals failed to develop the plant sent out to them, relying solely on the old time heliograph, Lord Roberts always had with him a body of wireless telegraphists, by which he keeps in constant communication with the various units of his enormous army. Several messages have been sent over six miles. The reports of naval experiments with the wireless are also satisfactory. The British battleship Hannibal, while under way, clearly read the battleship Jupiter's messages at thirty-two miles distant. Other severe tests have resulted favorably to Marconi.

Fired the Torpedo.
An extraordinary incident in connection with the bombardment of the coast defence fort at Beila, was the battleship Majestic has just looked out. It appears that the lower torpedo of the battleship was discharged by the effect of the shells of the Majestic, and only smart maneuvering on the part of the modern warship saved her from being blown up by the self-infused projectiles of the old hull.

A Scandal.
A most remarkable case came up this week, when Mrs. Brinkwood, the estate of the late Wm. Beckett, a former member of Parliament, for alleged children of herself and her alleged children. Mr. Beckett was one of the wealthiest private banking firms in England, and eminently respected in Parliament and society. It now transpires that Mrs. Brinkwood lived as his mistress for many years, and that the couple, for many years passed off as his own, as Beckett wished to use the children to "bluff" his own family into consenting to the payment of large sums to his mistress, and criminal proceedings may be commenced against her for trying to pass off the children as Beckett's. The executor of the estate sued Mr. Ernest Beckett, son of the man who lived with the family, and was one of the finest houses in Piccadilly.

Notes.
The fact of the Duke of Connaught having taken Lord Francis Clinton Hope's Castle Blaney, county Monaghan, for five years, with the option of establishment of a royal residence in Ireland.

ONTARIO ARCHIVES
TORONTO