

ADVANCING ON THE BOERS

General French Engages the Enemy But is Forced to Retire.

A Larger Force Now Going Forward and Hard Fighting is Expected, Jonker Concentrating His Troops at Abraham's Kraal—Twelve Thousand to Fifteen Thousand Men in His Command—Persistent Rumors That the Transvaal Government Has Made Overtures for Peace—The Reported Conference in Natal—Religious Appeal Made by Kruger.

LONDON, March 5.—A despatch from Oshfontein, dated March 2, says:

"The cavalry of General French, marching the advance guard of Lord Roberts' force toward Bloemfontein, is being steadily opposed in its progress eastward. An attempt was made this morning to oust a force of the enemy, occupying a strong position within four miles of this place, but after the exchange of rifle shots, the Boers, after firing a dozen 4-pounder shells from the Boers' general retired. A larger force is now going forward, and hard fighting is expected.

"The Boers are concentrating at the junction of the Kaalspruit at the Modder River, on a farm called Abraham's Kraal. General French is in command, and it is reported to have between 12,000 and 15,000 men in his forces. The position offers great natural opportunities for defence, a series of small hills permitting fortification and commanding the passage east. It is about thirty-five miles northwest of Bloemfontein. The gathering of this force toward Bloemfontein will not be permitted. The Boers are in many companies, all mounted, and of such an extremely mobile character that they appear to be overrunning the country, southwest and north.

"The Boers are still entrenched and were addressed by President Steyn, who exhorted them to average Cronje and fight for their homes. It is expected that Lord Roberts will send a strong force to the south to head off the Boers who have left the vicinity of Rensburg and who are at Stormberg so they cannot join the Boers in the neighborhood of Abraham's Kraal and Bloemfontein."

"A Bloemfontein despatch says: 'The Boers are reported as falling back on Blydenburg, but British information is that they are going in the opposite direction, toward the position of the Drakenburg Mountains into the Orange Free State. If the Boers do go toward the Blydenburg range they will find there a heavy force of mounted English sent by Buller through Zululand to intercept them at the north.'"

ALLEGED PEACE OVERTURES

A despatch to the "Times" from Lourenco Marques, of yesterday's date, says: "It is persistently rumored that the Transvaal Government has made overtures for peace. On the other hand, it is asserted that the Boers propose to make a stand at Giessen and Laing's Nek. Meanwhile the encirclements at Pretoria have been extended in anticipation of a siege.

"The conference between Presidents Kruger and Steyn and the general commanding the Boers in northern Natal was hurriedly arranged when the news of the official confirmation of the surrender, which took place on Tuesday morning, was withheld from the public until Thursday night. The Johannesburg Standard and Diggers News" of Friday morning even made a feeble attempt to ridicule the rumors of a defeat.

REPORTED RUSSIAN ACTIVITY

The matter mentioned in the House of Commons.

INDIANS WANT TO VOTE

A Delegation of Sioux to Ask Congress for Suffrage.

Commissioner William A. Jones, of the Indian office, received a call today from a delegation of five Sioux Indians from North Dakota. They wanted to tract business relating to the tribe. They are also endeavoring to have a bill placed before Congress allowing their people all over the country to have the right of suffrage.

LONDON GETTING NERVOUS

The Postponement of the Queen's Trip Considered Significant.

LONDON, March 5.—The feeling of nervousness in financial circles appears to be on the increase and the markets are weak. This is especially true of consols.

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LITTLE LOOKING AT JOHANNESBURG

CAPE TOWN, March 5.—The manager of the Bank of South Africa, who left Johannesburg on February 21, and has arrived here, reports that there has been very little looking in that district. None of the mines has been destroyed.

THE WEEK'S DEPORTATIONS

The Bureau of Immigration issued a statement today according to which ninety-nine aliens were deported during the week ended March 3. Among these were 31 paupers, 13 diseased, 6 contract laborers, 5 returned in one year, 1 insane, 6 returned in one year were from Italy (southern), 11 Hebrews, 3 each of Germans, Polish, Scotch, and Slavak, 2 Magyar, 1 each Greek and Irish, 1 insane, 8 diseased, 2 returned in one year were Hebrews, 3 diseased, 5 contract laborers, 2 returned in one year were from Italy (southern), 1 Polish contract laborer, and 1 diseased West Indian.

FUTURE OF THE BOERS

Afrikaner Bond in Favor of Maintaining the Republics.

CAPE TOWN, March 5 (11:16 a. m.).—The members of the Afrikaner Bond are organizing what they call a Conciliation Committee, and are advancing views in favor of maintaining the Boer republics. The committee purposes sending deputations to Canada and Australia to urge this view.

The English in the Colony are unanimously in favor of the abolition of the republics, and their absorption by Great Britain. The question is likely to cause a split in the Cape Ministry. It is known that one member of this body is strongly in favor of the abolition of the republics.

The British officials say the rebellion in the Carriagoon district of Cape Colony is of no importance. They state that the trouble has been caused by some of the poorer classes of Boers who have no fixed habitation and who reached that point during one of their nomadic treks.

THE BRITISH BUDGET

A Statement Made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

LONDON, March 5.—In the House of Commons today Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, presented the budget, and made the statement that but for the war there would have been a surplus of £7,500,000.

The total receipts of the Government for the financial year had been £116,600,000, and the expenditures, exclusive of the war receipts, £110,500,000. The estimates included £60,000,000 on account of the war and defensive operations at home that were made necessary by the war.

FRENCH LABOR AGITATORS

A Court Decision Leads Encouragement to Walking Delegates.

PARIS, March 5.—A decision of importance to trades unions and all workmen has just been rendered by Judge Magoud, who holds that workmen and their leaders have a perfect right to attempt to induce fellow-workmen to go on strike.

He says a political leader or agitator also addresses a meeting without being subject to prosecution as a disturber of the peace. The conservative press is protesting such a verdict, but it is recognized generally as representing things permitted in practice.

KIND WORDS FOR ENGLAND

Paul Deschanel Indirectly Advises Strict Neutrality.

PARIS, March 5.—"If one cannot or will not help the weak, it is foolish to irritate and insult the strong," said Paul Deschanel last night at a banquet given him at Nogen-le-Rotrou, celebrating his reelection to the Presidency of the Chamber of Deputies.

This statement was regarded as particularly suggestive and evidence of friendliness to England. He concluded his speech by saying:

"Let us not set aside the great duties which the neutral nations of the last half century have imposed upon us. Let us march in the direct road toward our inviolable goal."

RIDING ON AN AVALANCHE

Four Men Have a Thrilling Adventure Near Dya, Alaska.

VICTORIA, B. C., March 5.—A ride on the crest of an avalanche is the thrilling experience that four men at Dya live to boast of. Messrs. Beeman, O'Brien, Herby and Kirts were working near the summit of the White Pass line when the snow on which they were working started. They landed beyond Stone House. They had traveled for a thousand feet, and a little bruised by the sudden stoppage of the avalanche.

DECORATED BY FRANCE

Maurice Grau Presented With the Legion of Honor.

NEW YORK, March 5.—The Cross of the Legion of Honor recently conferred upon Maurice Grau by the French Government was presented to him yesterday along with a splendid testimonial from the members of the opera company.

Edward Lauterbach made the presentation speech, and at its close he drew a flag and revealed a superbly decorated and illuminated testimonial in the form of a letter to Mr. Grau, signed by all the members of the company. Frank S. Sanger, the president, presented to Mr. Grau the jeweled cross of the Legion, suspended by a crimson ribbon.

FUNERAL IN A THEATRE

Great Crowds Attend the Obsequies of an Actor.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 5.—The novelty of a funeral from a theatre drew such an immense crowd to the Alvin, where the body of Charles L. Davis lay in state yesterday afternoon, that the police were forced to close the doors. The latter were opened at 10:30 o'clock, the body of the dead theatre owner having been placed in a hearse, which stood at one end of the "Red Room."

Twenty police officers were necessary to keep the crowd in line. Services were conducted by Rev. John A. Joyce, pastor of the Observatory Hill Christian Church. The pallbearers were H. W. Williams, Percy Sage, Francis O'Neill, William Adams, S. A. Johnson, and W. W. Fullwood. Mr. Davis' will be read today.

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MORE FIGHTING IN LUZON

Rebels Engage the Americans Near Nueva Caceres.

Adjutant Gallacher Dies From Wounds Received—Eight Enlisted Men Wounded—Insurgents Leave Sixty-four Dead on the Field. Rifles and Prisoners Captured.

The War Department received a cable despatch from General Otis today showing that the insurrection in the Philippines is far from ended and that the insurgents are still fighting in southern Luzon, where it was thought they had been subdued.

The fight reported took place in the southernmost province of Luzon save one, San Miguel Bay being located on the southeastern coast of the island. Nueva Caceres, which is mentioned, is the capital of Camarines Province and located on the Biob River.

The despatch which follows gives details of a lively engagement in which the casualties were unusually heavy.

"Manila, March 5, 1900. 'Adjutant General Washington. 'Bates, two battalions, Fortieth, Forty-fifth Regiment, detachments Artillery, Engineers, Signal Corps, total 2,200 men, landed troops on southern, northwest, and southern coast, San Miguel Bay, Camarines Province, to move on Nueva Caceres in three columns, only strong opposition encountered by Godwin and battalion of his regiment. Lightarmy, captured. Adjutant Gallacher, died of wounds; three enlisted men severely, five slightly wounded; enemy killed, rifles considerable ammunition, and property, particulars of minor engagements of our could not be reported. Nueva Caceres found practically deserted; inhabitants in mountains; troops now covering important points in Province Camarines, Albay, Sorsogon; Navy tendered most valuable aid in landing troops and supplies. O'Brien, adjutant, John Barboe Gallacher, the officer who was killed in the fight, was born at Frankfurt, Ky., September 29, 1874. He was first lieutenant and adjutant of the First Kentucky Volunteers during the war with Spain and is now serving with the Twenty-second Volunteers. His mother, Mrs. L. Gallacher, resides at Swanee, Tenn."

CAPTAIN WILDE'S VIEWS

He Thinks Organized Filipino Warfare is About Over.

PROVINCETOWN, Mass., March 5.—Capt. G. F. Wilde, of the United States battleship Oregon, writing from Manila, January 15, says:

"The war business as an organized resistance is about over. While it undoubtedly be more or less guerrilla warfare, or more or less petty bandits robbing, prowling all over the island, and causing disturbances. They ought, if caught, to be summarily dealt with, shot on the spot. That would soon put a stop to their depredations and murders."

"We have a large number of vessels here. Counting small gunboats that we captured from the Spanish and others that were purchased here, we have 245 in all, quite a big fleet. The small gunboats are about 500 tons, are very nice craft adapted to shallow water work and to ascend small rivers and get into small bays and harbors where insurgents might get arms landed or food supplies smuggled in. As big ships are not wanted here, I am hoping are get ordered back before many months."

THE PORTO RICAN BILL

Senator Davis Offers a "Free Trade Amendment."

An amendment to the pending Porto Rican bill offered in the Senate today by Mr. Davis, provides for free trade between the island and the United States.

It extends to Porto Rico the provisions of the Constitution which provide that all duties, imposts, and taxes levied and collected shall be uniform throughout the United States, and that no restriction shall be placed on the commerce between the States.

RELIEF BILL REPORTED

Senate Claims Committee Favors Allowances for Contractors.

Senator Keen, from the Committee on Claims, has presented a report to the Senate recommending the passage of the bill for the relief of the Atlantic Works of Boston.

In September and October, 1882, the Navy Department entered into contract with the Atlantic Works of Boston for the construction of the machinery, engines, and boilers of the two double-enders (wooden hulls) Osceola and Sassacus. The contracts were for \$1,000,000 and \$700,000, respectively. The amount of \$1,000,000 was authorized by Congress for an additional allowance over the contract price paid therefor by the Navy Department and a board of Commissioners, Thomas O. Selfridge, Chief Engineer, and others, examined the claims under this resolution, passed in the Senate March 1, 1885.

Under this resolution the Secretary of the Navy appointed a board, consisting of Commodore Thomas O. Selfridge, Chief Engineer, Alexander Henderson, and Paymaster C. H. Eldridge, which convened at the Brooklyn Navy Yard June 5, 1885, and continued in session for more than six months.

The mother of the murdered boy resides in Palmer Street, this city, and has two sons in the Philippines, who enlisted without her knowledge last October. They were her only children, and she is now being compelled to go to work in the worst mills. The murdered soldier was twenty-one years of age.

KNOW HER SON WAS SHOT

Cable News Confirms Mrs. Treacey's Distressing Dream.

DETROIT, Mich., March 5.—In a list of casualties recently cable by General Otis to the War Department was the name of Leslie Norman Treacey, a member of Company D, Thirtieth Infantry, now serving in the Philippines. Treacey was shot in the arm.

The cable report contained no news for Treacey's mother. "I was not surprised to receive the message, for I have been expecting it for a week," she said. "I dreamed last week that Leslie was in a hospital and I could see all the dreadful details. When I woke up I said to my children that Leslie was hurt, and that we would hear of it soon."

REPORT OF CHIEF PARRIS

The Operations of the Fire Department During Last Month.

Joseph Parris, Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, has submitted his report of the operations of the department for the month of February, as follows: "There were twenty-eight alarms of fire, being a decrease of 29 as compared with the previous month, and a decrease of 9 as compared with the corresponding month of the preceding year. Five of these alarms were false. There were also 17 local or silent alarms for which no bells were sounded, which were answered by the department.

"The estimated loss for the month was \$5,116, covered by an insurance of \$4,749, against a loss of \$3,819 and an insurance of \$7,155 for the previous month, and a loss of \$8,975, and an insurance of \$8,485 for the corresponding month of the preceding year."

DISTRICT BILLS PASSED

Favorable Action on Important Local Measures.

It was nearly 1 o'clock before Chairman Babcock secured the floor to call up District bills, the time of the House prior to that having been taken up with the consideration of miscellaneous bills.

Mr. Babcock called up House bill 7663 to establish a Board of Charities for the District of Columbia, and passed by a majority of 248 yeas and 62 nays.

The second section provides that the Board is to hold office three years. The Board is to visit, inspect, and maintain a general supervision over all institutions, societies, or associations of a charitable, correctional, or reformatory character. The bill was passed.

Mr. Babcock next called up House bill 7664 to amend the act approved July 22, 1891, providing for the opening of alleys in the District of Columbia. It provides authority to the Commissioners to open and close alleys or to widen or straighten them and to supply proper drainage.

The third section provides that the Commissioners have the right to classify any alley or part of an alley thereby rendered useless or unnecessary. The bill was passed.

PASSED BY THE SENATE

The Pension Appropriation Bill Approved After Being Amended.

In the Senate today the Pension Appropriation bill was passed after being amended in some technical particulars. It appropriates \$145,246,230, being about \$12,000 more than the appropriations for the current year. The report will accompany the bill.

The bill gives the number of pensioners on the roll in 1850 as 991,725, as against 485,725 in 1889, and the average annual value of each pension as \$132.74. The average annual value of pensions allowed on account of the war with Spain is given as \$152.

In discussing the bill Mr. Allen declared himself in favor of "an enlarged pension policy." There was nothing to be gained, he said, "by a hair splitting and bagging process respecting pensions."

The total general revenues of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year 1901, exclusive of the Water Department, is \$1,000,000, and it is recommended that the amount be increased to \$1,100,000 by an increase of \$50,000 over the appropriations for the Water Department for the current fiscal year.

It is estimated that the water revenues available for the fiscal year 1901 will amount to \$38,296, but it is provided in the bill as it was in the acts for the current and eight preceding fiscal years, that any surplus of these revenues over the appropriations made specifically therefor shall be applied to the work of extending the high-service system of water distribution.

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THE PHILIPPINES BILL

It Vests the Temporary Governing Power in the President.

The Senate Committee on the Philippines today ordered a favorable report on the bill introduced by Senator Spooner, vesting in the President the power to govern the Philippine Islands until Congress otherwise directs.

STEAMER MUST BE SOLD

Supreme Court's Decision on the Captured Benito Estenger.

The Supreme Court today affirmed the judgment of the Florida District Court, ordering the sale of the steamer Benito Estenger, captured by the Hornet off Cape Cruz, July 27, 1898, loaded with 1,200 barrels of flour.

Previously it was made that the vessel had been voluntarily transferred to a British subject and was therefore not liable to seizure. The court said the evidence in this direction was not sufficient and the judgment below was affirmed.

GOVERNOR TANNER IMPROVING

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 5.—Governor Tanner's condition is considerably improved today, though he is still confined to his bed. He rested well last night and was able to take some light nourishment. Great care is being exercised as to his diet to prevent another relapse.

DELIGHTFUL TRIP DAILY AT 6:30 P. M.

Delightful trips daily at 6:30 p. m. to Old Post Comfort, Newmarket, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach. For schedule see page 7.

THE DISTRICT EXPENSES

Mr. Grant Reports the Appropriation Bill to the House.

The Total Amount Recommended for the Fiscal Year 1901, Exclusive of the Water Department, is \$6,000,000—\$378,311—Sums Allowed for the Public Schools and Other Purposes.

The bill making appropriations for the support of the Government of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, was presented to the House this afternoon by Representative Grant from the Committee on Appropriations.

The estimates of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, upon which the bill is based, exclusive of the Water Department, aggregate \$7,742,526.48, one-half of which amount, or of such sum as Congress may appropriate, is required to be drawn from the revenues of the General Government, and the remaining one-half to be levied upon the taxable property and privileges in the District of Columbia other than the property of the United States and the District of Columbia, pursuant to section 3 of the act approved June 11, 1878, entitled "An act providing a permanent form of government for the District of Columbia."

The total amount recommended to be appropriated for the general expenses of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year 1901 in the bill just submitted is, exclusive of the Water Department, \$6,000,000, of which sum the General Government is required to pay \$2,938.15, that being one-half of the whole, exclusive of the amount (\$2,500) recommended for expenses under the Highway act. The first-named sum is \$1,812,482 less than the estimates submitted by the Commissioners.

The amount appropriated for the general expenses of the District of Columbia for the current fiscal year (1900) is \$5,974,347.97, or \$59,016.46 more than is recommended in the bill for 1901.

The amount recommended for the Water Department, all of which is payable from the water revenues, is \$1,812,482, being an increase of \$5,000 over the appropriations for the Water Department for the current fiscal year.

It is estimated that the water revenues available for the fiscal year 1901 will amount to \$38,296, but it is provided in the bill as it was in the acts for the current and eight preceding fiscal years, that any surplus of these revenues over the appropriations made specifically therefor shall be applied to the work of extending the high-service system of water distribution.

The total general revenues of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year 1901, exclusive of the Water Department, is \$1,000,000, and it is recommended that the amount be increased to \$1,100,000 by an increase of \$50,000 over the appropriations for the Water Department for the current fiscal year.

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FEARS OF AN OUTBREAK

United States War Vessels Sent to Central America.

Costa Rica and Nicaragua Likely to Engage in a Conflict—The Cruisers Detroit and Marblehead to Protect American Interests—One Vessel to Be Stationed on Each Coast.

The Navy Department has finally taken notice of the threatening conditions in Central America. There is every reason to fear an early outbreak between Nicaragua and Costa Rica, and two cruisers have been despatched to those countries to protect Americans and American interests.

The Navy Department today issued the following bulletin regarding the situation: "The Detroit and Marblehead have been sent to Central America, one on each side, on account of despatches received from our representatives there which indicate some recurrence of the disturbed state of affairs, and for the purpose of protecting American interests there."

The countries involved in the trouble are Costa Rica and Nicaragua, and the Detroit has gone to the Atlantic side of the two countries, while the Marblehead will look after affairs on the Pacific coast.

For some time trouble has been brewing between the two