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BRANDFORD TAKEN

British Army Captures a Boer Stronghold.

A GREAT FLANKING MOVEMENT

Operations in the Thabanchu District Intended to Cut Off the Dutch Retreat to the North.

LONDON, May 4.—It is announced that the British have captured Brandford.

Boers Taken by Surprise.
BRANDFORD, Thursday, May 3, Morning.—Brandford was captured by a combined movement of Colonel Tucker's and General Pole-Carew's divisions, on the east and center, and General Hutton's Mounted Infantry on the west. The British surprised the Boers, who retreated hastily. Four thousand of the enemy moved here yesterday evening in order to oppose our advance. Colonel Tucker's artillery had a sharp duel with the enemy's guns, and put two of them out of action.

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SPIONKOP DISPATCHES.

Correspondence Relating to Them Issued to Parliament.

LONDON, May 4.—The telegraphic correspondence relating to the Spionkop dispatches was issued to Parliament just before midnight Thursday. Lord Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War, wired March 23, asking the advice of Lord Roberts about publishing the dispatches, saying: "We cannot publish all the documents enclosed with your dispatch of February 12," and suggesting certain dispatches, which, in Lord Lansdowne's opinion, might be published. Lord Lansdowne replied: "But I would not feel justified in thus editing the papers unless you concur; and you may perhaps think it well to refer to Buller. I suggest, as an alternative, that we should treat your dispatch of February 12 and all its enclosures as confidential, and that Buller should send through a full narrative of the operations. This you could forward to me with any observations you desire to make for publication."

Lord Roberts replied to Lord Lansdowne, in a dispatch dated Bloemfontein, March 23, that he had suggested to Sir Redvers Buller to prepare a full narrative, but that Sir Redvers answered as follows: "I do not at all like the idea of rewriting a dispatch for publication. I must prefer to leave it in the hands of the Commander-in-Chief. Let him select for publication whatever he thinks proper."

To this Lord Roberts appended that he would not himself object to publication of a paper edited as Lord Lansdowne had suggested by Lord Lansdowne. He asked Lord Lansdowne to wire a reply. This reply from Lord Lansdowne, dated April 2, said:

"In view of Buller's objection I abandon the proposal that the dispatch should be rewritten, and I propose to publish the

selection described in my dispatch of March 23.

Lord Roberts answered under date of April 6: "I agree to my dispatch of February 12 being published."

The correspondence also contains two dispatches referred to in Lord Lansdowne's dispatch of March 23. The first is from Lord Lansdowne to General Buller, dated January 5, representing the impossibility of publishing his dispatches, which "contain many selections of a nature forecast of his intentions," and emphasizing the advisability of sending dispatches descriptive of the operations for presentation to Parliament. The second is from Lord Lansdowne to General Buller, dated February 6, saying: "You will, I feel sure, agree with me that Methuen's dispatch regarding Magerfontein could not be published as sent. There are messages in it inappropriate to such documents, and it also gives information of importance to the enemy. If he likes, I will revise the dispatch, but I prefer not to undertake this responsibility. I suggest that you should refer to the contents of this dispatch and to write another." The correspondence does not indicate whether Lord Methuen rewrote the dispatch as suggested. The Spionkop dispatch as published was entirely new, and was first mentioned in Lord Lansdowne's dispatch of March 23.

Pleaded the Briton's Cause.

CHICAGO, May 3.—Bishop Hartzell pleaded the case of the British Transvaal tonight before an audience that almost filled the Auditorium. He spoke from impressions gained by personal observations in South Africa; from personal acquaintance with the Boers; and from close study of laws and the administration of laws by the government. Bishop Hartzell made his argument in behalf of the English. The audience was pro-British in its sympathies.

DEMANDS AN EXPLANATION.

Choate Takes Up the Sea Witch Case With Salisbury.

LONDON, May 3.—It has been learned by a representative of the Associated Press that United States Ambassador Choate has asked Lord Salisbury for an explanation as to the alleged abuse of international right in the case of the American ship Sea Witch, which, according to statements of her commander, Captain Hayes, was boarded by the British warship Wasp within the three-mile limit of Portuguese territory in East Africa.

The American ship Sea Witch left Walpole December 5, and arrived at Delagoa Bay February 12. She sailed March 4 for Port Natal (Durban), and arrived there March 9.

The American Ambassador's communication to the Premier hardly amounts to a protest, and serious complications are not likely to ensue in the case, as intimated by Secretary Hay to London, consists of the captain's allegation that, while the Sea Witch was off Delagoa Bay, he signalled to the Wasp, which was patrolling, and the Wasp sent a boat to her. The captain of the Sea Witch complained that the visit resembled a warlike boarding, and that his manifest was examined against his will, when palpably within neutral waters. If the latter statement is true, a serious offense has been committed, and the Wasp will call for an ample apology from Great Britain. But it is pointed out that the fact that the Sea Witch signalled the Wasp, before the warship noticed her, invests the case with a new character. Apparently both Mr. Choate and Lord Salisbury are inclined to believe that there is some mistake, perhaps on both sides. The incident, however, was referred to the Admiralty, which has no record of the occurrence, but has cabled to South Africa for the Wasp's version of the affair, and it is possible that some time may elapse before the British reply is received. In the meantime, the incident does not interfere in the slightest degree with the cordial relations existing between the representatives of the two nations interested.

RUMOR OF FENIAN INVASION.

Unusual Activity in Canadian Militia Circles.

DETROIT, May 3.—Local papers today print the following:

"Windsor, Ont., May 3.—Colonel Holmes, commanding officer of No. 1 military district, has received instructions from Ottawa to march to the Twenty-first Essex Fusiliers, Seventh London Fusiliers, the Twenty-sixth Middlesex, Twenty-seventh Lambton and Twenty-fifth Elgin Battalions, and to be ready to march at two hours' notice. This step has been deemed advisable by the Military Department owing to information that bands of Fenians intend to invade Canada at some point along the River St. Clair or Detroit River, for the purpose of destroying some of the railway lines. Arrangements have been so completed that the battalion is prepared for marching orders at any time. Local military authorities claim an invasion is not feared, but that the battalions named will be mobilized at some point on the frontier for tactical exercise only."

STATUS OF PORTO RICO.

Federal Judge Holds Treaty Ratification Made If American Territory.

ST. PAUL, May 3.—United States District Judge Lochren today, in this city, decided that the ratification of the treaty of peace between the United States and Spain made Porto Rico American territory and subject to the Constitution of the United States without any further act of Congress. The decision was given in the case of Raphael Ortiz, a Porto Rican, who is seeking release from the prison at Bullwater, on the ground that his trial for murder by a military court was unlawful, because, as an American citizen, he was entitled to a trial by jury. His application for a writ of habeas corpus is denied, however, on the ground that the island was in a state of war before the ratification of the treaty when the murder was committed, and that, therefore, the military court had jurisdiction. After reviewing the facts of the case, the court said that, according to the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, a military commission was without jurisdiction to try a civilian in United States territory in time of war. He considered Porto Rico territory of the United States, and subject to the Constitution of the United States, and the control of this Government. Unless the Constitution extended to Porto Rico in advance of action by Congress, Congress would have no power to legislate for the island at all, because it has no authority to legislate for any except territory to which the Constitution has extended.

SILVER WAS IGNORED

No Sixteen-to-One for Iowa Democrats.

STATE CONVENTION AT DES MOINES

Bryan Strongly Indorsed—Delegates Contributed to a Fund in Aid of the Boers.

DES MOINES, Ia., May 3.—The Democratic State Convention selected four delegates-at-large to the Kansas City convention: Cato Sells, of Vinton; Charles A. Walsh, of Ottumwa; John S. Murphy, of Dubuque, and George Baker, of Davenport.

The proceedings were characterized by harmony throughout. The convention was the largest held by the Democrats of this



COMMANDANT OLIVIER, ABLE BOER TACTICIAN.

Commandant Olivier, who will probably have direct military authority over the two Boer armies—his own and that of Dewet—after they shall have formed a junction at Ladybrand, is conceded to be, next to Louis Botha, the foremost of the Afrikaner leaders, now that Joubert and Cronje are out of the field. His retreat north to Wierburg about the time of General Joubert's death, March 23, was highly praised as one of the cleverest maneuvers of the war. Olivier, as was Joubert, is of French origin.

state in recent years, nearly 1600 delegates being present. The prevailing sentiment was overwhelmingly for Bryan, and the delegates were instructed to vote as a unit for him at the National convention at Philadelphia on the platform the more conservative element prevailed. The Chicago platform is indorsed, and the gold standard denounced, but the ratification of the treaty of 1898 is not mentioned in the resolutions. The selection of John S. Murphy, editor of the Dubuque Telegraph, was a concession to the radical advocates of free silver. The treaty must go, and there is no party that can and will accomplish it, and that is the Democratic party. You cannot hope the Republican party will crush the trusts. Do you expect a father to cast off his most obedient son?

"Imperialism, militarism and trusts are one. They mean a gigantic consolidation, and woe to the common people when they are united. Imperialism cannot be a successful army bodes no good to a free people; if maintained it will lead to but one end—dictatorship."

"We cannot have colonies under our present system of Government. We cannot hold territory in any other capacity. Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines are to become a part of the United States, are they not? If they are, then say so. If they are not, then the people of this country are in bondage, and the flag of the Republic floats over slaves."

Cato Sells and Charles A. Walsh had no appreciable opposition for delegates-at-large. The contest for the other two places on the delegation was spirited and close, resulting in the selection of Murphy and Baker. Frederick E. White, candidate for Governor in 1895 and 1899, who has been strongly urged for delegate, withdrew his name, and earnestly advised the nomination of Mr. Murphy.

The convention adopted a resolution offering by the convention to the delegates a fund in aid of the Boers.

The platform reaffirms unqualified allegiance to the principles set forth in the Democratic National platform adopted at Chicago in 1896, recognizing W. J. Bryan as the greatest living exponent of those principles and demands his nomination as American honor; condemns what it calls the imperialistic policy of this Administration; extends sympathy to the Spanish African republics, and favors the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

Long for Vice-President.
WORCESTER, Mass., May 3.—The

INSTRUCTED FOR MCKINLEY.

Michigan Republican Convention Elected Delegates.

DETROIT, Mich., May 3.—The state convention, which today elected delegates-at-large to the National Republican Convention, transacted its business quickly and harmoniously. The four delegates-at-large, who had been slated, were elected without division, with the exception of William McPherson, whose candidacy was opposed by Frank W. Gilchrist. The former was chosen, however. The following platform was adopted:

"We, the Republicans of the State of Michigan, in convention assembled, hereby reaffirm and renew our allegiance to the time-honored principles of the Republican party. We unqualifiedly and unequivocally indorse the Administration of President McKinley, and congratulate the country on its happy and prosperous condition, brought about as a direct result of the application of Republican principles, and policies to the affairs of Government, and

DEAD IN THE SENATE

Nicaragua Canal Is Again a Forlorn Hope.

ADMINISTRATION ALSO HOSTILE

Hepburn Bill, as Passed, Is in Line With Hay-Panacoffe Treaty—Objectionable to Senate.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—The Senate will not abandon its amendment to the Hay-Panacoffe treaty, and the Hepburn amendments to the Nicaragua Canal treaty are considered practically in line with the treaty. The canal bill will not pass the Senate, however, because the amended treaty is not satisfactory to the parties negotiating it, nor is the bill in its present form satisfactory to the Administration. The Walker Commission report, to be submitted later, will serve as a pretext to put over the canal bill, although the treaty is the important element.

Marine Hospital at Dutch Harbor.
Surgeon-General Wyman, of the Marine Hospital Service, today stated that arrangements have been made with the North American Commercial Company for the rental of buildings at Dutch Harbor, Alaska, which are being placed in condition for the reception of patients. The company promises to have the buildings in readiness by July 1. An experienced officer of the Marine Hospital Service will be placed in command, and the work of equipping will commence at once.

In response to a letter from Governor Geer, Representative Moody today called on the Commissioner of Indian Affairs concerning the reservation of the Indians who served in General Howard's command in the war with Chief Joseph.

Port Townsend Hydrographic Office.
It has been repeatedly stated that the branch hydrographic office at Port Townsend would be discontinued. During the past year the office was practically discontinued for a time, there being no one in charge. During the past week, Senator Foster has asked the Navy Department to continue the branch office at Port Townsend under the appropriation provided for the legislative and judicial bill which has been before Congress in the present session. Under this bill, ample provision is made for maintaining the branch office at Port Townsend, and the Senator has secured an assurance from Secretary Long that the office will not be discontinued.

Special Census Agents.

The Director of the Census has notified the various delegations and supervisors that the names of special agents to collect manufacturing statistics must be submitted before May 15. The delegation from Washington has given this question attention during the past few days, and among those to be named will probably be the following: Tacoma, George H. Boardman and C. W. Billings; Seattle, William M. Inglis and one other; Spokane, Adam Bellington; Ingleton and Walla Walla, J. G. Miller, of Dayton; Everett and Snohomish, Sam H. Nichols; Everett; New Whatcom and Fairhaven, Superior; McMillan will collect the desired statistics. The compensation allowed for this work will be practically that allowed for enumerators.

Maryland Politics.

Maryland is a sound-money state, but even at that it is a doubtful state at the present time. In the last campaign, when it elected a Governor and nearly all the members of the Legislature, the Democratic platform did not mention the money question at all, and the nominees were all Democratic sound-money men. This year there is more or less defection. Senator Wellington, opposing the policy of the Administration, not only on the subject of the Porto Rican tariff, but also on expansion, has gone over to the Democrats, and will take with him quite a following, in spite of the fact that he is not very popular man personally just now. Some Republican members of the Legislature have indicated a desire not to run for re-election. This is said to be because they feel that they are almost sure to meet defeat. The indications are that Gorman is pretty thoroughly in the lead, and during Gorman's career he has generally been able to control the Democracy of Maryland. Of course he realizes what an uphill job it would be to carry this state if Bryan were nominated, yet the Democrats still have hope. The Republicans who do not belong to the Wellington stripe are in Maryland, which made it possible for the Republicans to carry the state by bolting Bryan and deserting Gorman. This element is no doubt anti-expansion, and if it is more opposed to expansion than Bryan it is possible that even Bryan could carry the state. This independent vote will decide it.

REPLY TO THE PORTE'S NOTE

Action of Ambassadors in Relation to Proposed Tariff Increase.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 3.—The Ambassadors met yesterday and decided to reply to the Porte's note of April 29 regarding the increase of duties, as follows: "The embassies note the Porte's declaration that it does not intend to introduce any unilateral measures, and will hasten to inform their governments of this." The Ambassadors have decided to make their consent to an increase conditional on the removal of the abuses of the chemical analysis, the suppression of warehouse duties and the abolition of the stipulation whereby articles not specified in the tariff may be interdicted, confiscated or destroyed. The Ambassadors have decided to make the payment of indemnities to foreigners a separate question and to deal therewith at a later date.

The Porte has not replied to the American note regarding the indemnity claim.

Show Is Not a Candidate.

CHICAGO, May 3.—Governor Shaw, of Iowa, who is here attending the Methodist Conference, declared in an interview that he was not a candidate for the Vice-Presidency on the Republican ticket, nor did he know that Congressman Hepburn was.

Daily Treasury Statement.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—Today's statement of the Treasury balance shows: Available cash balance.....\$45,296,972 Gold.....7,255,284

Plague at Suakin.

SUAKIN, May 3.—Three cases of bubonic plague and one death from the disease are recorded here.