THE CUBAN FRAUDS

Subject for Heated Political Debate in the Senate.

THE DEMOCRATS WERE LISTENERS

Platt Defends the Administration's Course—Spooner and Hale in a Warm Set-To.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—This was a day of rasping political controversy and oratory in the Senate. With the controversy, those on the Democratic side of the chamber, anomalous as it may seem, had little to do. What by far-seeing Senators is regarded as likely to be the paramount issue of the approaching National campaign was the subject of two notable speeches, one by Platt of Connecticut, and the other by Spooner. The former was an answer to the speech delivered a few days ago by Bacon, on his resolution demanding an examination of financial conditions in Cuba. Platt favored the adoption of the resolution, but deprecated what he called a cheap effort to make political capital out of a shameful condition of affairs, which the Republican party needed no prodding to induce it to probe to the bottom.

The speech of Spooner was a continuation of his address of yesterday on the Philippine question. In its course he became involved in a heated and sensational colloquy with Hale over the Government's conduct of affairs in our "insular possessions." It was a remarkable controversy between two of the best-equipped Senators in the Senate, and was listened to with profound attention by Senators, many Representatives and crowded galleries.

The Routine Report.

At the opening of the Senate, Morgan (Dem. Ala.) called up his resolution calling upon the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy for information relative to the cost of the transportation of troops and supplies to the Philippines, and it was agreed to.

The resolution previously offered by Bacon (Dem. Ga.), directing the committee on relations with Cuba to make an investigation regarding the receipts and expenditures of money in Cuba, was then called up.

"About a month ago," said Platt (Rep. Conn.), who is chairman of the committee on relations with Cuba, "General Wood, Governor-General of Cuba, was led to suppose that there had been irregularities in that portion of the Government of Cuba under the supervision of the Director of Posts. He immediately organized an inspection, which has been unsparingly pressed. The Senator from Georgia (Bacon) seems to think, as do some of the newspapers, that all the malfeasance in office and fraud have been brought to light, not by the United States Government officials, but by outsiders. But it is to General Wood that the credit for the discovery of these frauds and wrongdoings belongs, and to the Administration belongs the credit of probing to the bottom these frauds. The Senator from Georgia has no monopoly on the shame and humiliation with which every patriotic man is affected by the recent disclosures. They are shocking. They are a direct blow to every true citizen of the United States.

"If the wrongdoing had occurred in Boston, New York or Washington, it would have been sad and shameful, but it would not have been so sad and shameful as it is, since it occurred on the Island of Cuba, where the Administration is engaged in a great work of freedom and philanthropy. Nothing has occurred in the history of defalcations that has made such an impression on the public mind as this, and justly so. More than ever it is incumbent upon the Government to probe this matter to the bottom unflinchingly, unsparingly. The Republican party never tolerates fraud or peculation or embezzlement. Neither the Republican Administration nor the committee on relations with Cuba need any prodding from the opposition party to induce them to make a most searching investigation and to use every effort to punish severely any person guilty of wrongdoing or fraud in the Island of Cuba.

"But some things ought to be remembered by these patriots, who in this Presidential campaign hold up their hands in holy horror and seize upon what has been disclosed in an endeavor to cast discredit upon not only the Administration, but also upon their country. It ought to be remembered that in the three years and three months of the present Administration, this is the first opportunity they have had to criticise in that respect."

General Bristow's Instructions.

Platt said that for Congress to interfere with the investigation instituted by the Postmaster-General might defeat the ends of justice, and he announced that the department investigation would be thorough and searching. He then read a letter from Postmaster-General Smith to Fourth Assistant Bristow, who is charged with conducting the investigation. The letter follows:

"Washington, D. C., May 16, 1900.—Hon. Joseph L. Bristow, Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General—Sir: Supplementing my letter of May 12, directing you to proceed at once to Cuba, the following instructions are given for your guidance: You will, immediately on your arrival at Havana, confer freely and fully with General Wood, Military Governor, and will keep in constant communication with him on the work on which you enter. You will co-operate with the Military Governor, both in the investigation of all irregularities in the Postal Service of Cuba and in any measures for the reorganization of the system that may be undertaken.

"The examination by the inspectors, already provided for, will have begun before your arrival. You will assume general supervision of this examination and will enforce the instructions heretofore given that it shall be of the most searching and thorough character. If you find that you need a still larger force for the prompt and complete performance of this duty, you will call for it. The investigation must be comprehensive and minute, covering every branch of the service and all classes of officials. Its prosecution must be governed solely by the purpose of ascertaining the truth and the whole truth, and it must be uncompromising and unsparing.

"Besides supervising the investigation in co-operation with the military government, it will be your duty to examine the organization of the postal service with its system of checks and balances, and report what greater or additional safeguards can be provided. Under the system established at the beginning of the American occupation of Cuba the administrative side of the service was placed under the control of this department and the auditing or checking side under the control of another. This is the system of the United States Government.

"The irregularities and peculations which have been brought to light were apparently accomplished because officers appointed by and responsible to different Postmasters and who should have a check upon each other entered into collusion and conspiracy to perpetrate these wrongs on the one side, and to pass and cover them up on the other. You will carefully investigate by what defects of supervision or defense they were consummated and what further measures of protection in the passing and auditing of accounts and in handling of public funds and property may be needed.

"It is desired also that the central organization of the post service in Cuba shall receive your especial attention. You will examine as to whether it is framed in the best manner for efficient administration. You will see whether compatibly with a good military service for the people any retrenchments can be made, and whether economies can be effected by a consolidation and reduction of bureaus. It is desired to bring the postal expenditures within the postal revenues, so far as may be consistent with the obligation of providing a satisfactory mail service.

"Your presence in Cuba, as the representative of the department, with these instructions, makes you the ranking officer of the postal administration. You will consider and advise what removals or other action may be required in the cause of justice, for the interest of the government and the people of Cuba and for the welfare of the service. You are chosen for this duty with the approval of the President, who is deeply shocked at the shameful betrayal of trust on the part of the officials in whom confidence had been reposed, and who directs that in dealing with all irregularities which have been or may be disclosed the sole rule of action shall be thorough and complete investigation, the rigorous and unsparing prosecution of all guilty persons and their swift and condign punishment. You will communicate these instructions to General Wood, keeping him fully informed as you proceed and reporting regularly to the department. Respectfully yours, CHARLES EMORY SMITH, "Postmaster-General."

Administration's Investigation.

Continuing, Platt said:

"The people have confidence in William McKinley. No President, while he was President, had the confidence of the people to the degree that President McKinley has it. Other Presidents have been canonized after death, and it has been evidenced then that they had the confidence of the people, but no person in office ever escaped the criticism and innuendo that McKinley has escaped. The people would be glad to leave this investigation to him. They know there would be no condoning of fraud, no covering up of crime. But when charges are made simply for campaign purposes, I think we may as well make an investigation for ourselves."

Further along, Platt paid a high tribute to General Wood, General Brooke and others, and said no Army officer has been even charged with anything like fraud in Cuba.

"Has the Senator had his attention directed to the railroad construction along the south side of the harbor of Havana?" inquired Tillman (Dem. S. C.).

"If the Senator," retorted Platt, warmly, "has any information as to that railroad; I wish he would produce it."

"I did not say I had any information," said Tillman, "but if there is an investigation, I will produce some witnesses."

Referring to the construction of this railroad, Platt said the names of ex-Secretary of War Alger and Senators Platt and Depew, of New York, had been used in connection with the project, but they had entered vigorous denials of any connection with it, although, to his mind, such denials were unnecessary. "These charges simply show the recklessness of those people who are throwing stones at the present Administration."

Platt said there would be no disposition to protect Director Rathbone, if he should be shown to be involved in the financial difficulties in Cuba. If he were found to be guilty, he would be punished unsparingly.

Continuing, Platt said that Neely had the confidence of the people of Indiana, and before the recent disclosures his integrity had never been questioned, and the same was true of Rathbone. The Administration, he thought, had exercised proper caution in appointing these men to office.

"Neely went wrong," said Platt, "and brought disgrace and shame and humiliation upon this country—rather than upon the Administration—which had assumed responsible duties in Cuba."

Bacon, he said, demanded to know why our Government was in Cuba and why it did not come away. We are there, Platt answered, because we have been sent there by the American people; because Congress sent our Army there to destroy the power of Spain.

"We have a duty yet to perform there," said Platt, "and the American people will see to it that it is discharged. The military control of the island will cease when the people set up for themselves a government for themselves which will properly control the island."

"When will that time come?" inquired Bacon.

"That time will be delayed long," said Platt, "if a party for partisan purposes makes the work more difficult. The blush of shame ought to mantle the cheek of every man who is trying to hinder or embarrass the operation of General Wood in Cuba, who is seeking to bring about that time as rapidly as it may be brought about."

The conference report on the Army appropriation bill was agreed to.

Spooner and Hale.

Spooner (Rep. Wis.) then resumed his speech on the Philippine question. Incidentally, he referred to the situation in Cuba, and our responsibility there.

Hale (Rep. Me.) interrupted him to say that, in view of what had happened in Cuba, it would have been better had we abandoned it.

"Does the Senator think," inquired Spooner, "in the case I have put, we should have abandoned Cuba?"

"I think it would have been the best thing in the world for us if we had done it," replied Hale. "I think if it were found that the population in Cuba was as hostile to us as it had been to Spain, we should have abandoned and been glad to get rid of it."

"Well," said Spooner, "that is a matter of opinion. In the case I have put, I believe we should have taken Cuba and held it, giving to the people of Cuba individual liberty and good government."

Hale—The Senator has more confidence than I have in the experiment we are trying today of teaching the people of Cuba honesty and good government. I think we would have been better off if we had not taught the Cubans the lesson that has been taught in the last few months.

Spooner—What lesson?

Hale—The lesson of fraud, peculation, cheating, appropriation of revenues, stealing, a carnival in every direction of corruption and fraud.

Spooner (warmly)—It is a little tiresome for me to be called upon on this side of the chamber to reply to a Democratic speech.

Hale—I am as good a Republican as the Senator from Wisconsin. I do not recognize any party obligations that compel me to consent to the proposition that everything has gone right in Cuba.

Spooner—Nobody pretends it.

Hale—I do think the experiment has been a failure. I would vote tomorrow to withdraw from Cuba and leave that people to establish and set up and maintain their own government. The time will come when Republicans will b eglad when we get out of this thing without worse things happening than are now.

"What does the Senator mean," demanded Spooner, "when he speaks in general terms of a carnival of fraud and corruption?"

"I mean the things disclosed," replied Hale. "A bill of particulars has been filed already. It is not the Administration at fault. It is a natural result. There never has been an instance of the setting up of a supreme government in a colony or dependency that has not been attended with practically the same things that we have seen in Cuba. Congress is as much at fault. The Administration has selected men who are believed to be good men. We went into it with utter confidence, believing that it was an easy thing. I voted against the peace treaty, because I believed colonial dependencies would result in precisely what has occurred. I am glad, too, I am glad to see that the Administration is trying to guard it, but I do not want anybody to say that it is an unexpected thing."

"So far as anything I said is concerned," said Spooner, "the Senator's observations are, in the language of Shakespeare, 'a bolt of nothing, shot at nothing.' We went to war to free Cuba. Have we done Cuba and the Cubans no kindness by pouring out millions of our money and shedding the blood of our soldiers in order to drive Spanish tyranny forever from Cuba? Has the Senator any suspicion in his mind or in his heart that the pledge made in the resolution passed by Congress as to the temporary character of our occupation in Cuba is not to be kept?"

Influences for Annexation.

"I have very grave suspicions," answered Hale. "I think there are very powerful influences in this country, largely located in New York, largely speculative and connected with money-making enterprises, that are determined that we shall never give up Cuba. I think that the time will never come, unless something earnest and drastic is done by Congress, that the last soldier of the United States will be withdrawn from Cuban soil. I do not think the President favors holding Cuba. I discovered very powerful influences, commercial, mercantile, money and political, that are opposed to our ever withdrawing from Cuba. I take up the newspapers that are foremost in the large cities, and I find every day intimations and hints that we are never to withdraw from Cuba.

Spooner—If I were inclined to doubt for one moment that the United States Government will seasonably withdraw from Cuba, I should be ashamed of the Government and ashamed of its action.

Hale—That assurance from the Senator more than repays me for all that I have said. I shall count upon him in the future.

Spooner—To say that the Senator will count upon me in the future is little less than an insult. This is a Government of honor, and it is a people of honor. What have we done for Cuba? When since the morning stars first sang together in the heavens has any people done for another people what we have done for Cuba? As rapidly as may be, in absolute good faith, not hurried by demagogy in violation of National honor, by insinuation, by venal politics in a Presidential election, this Administration is going forward to redeem to its utmost the pledge to Cuba. We have given the best government to the people of Cuba thus far they have ever had. Every man's life is safe in Cuba; every woman's honor is safe in Cuba. Of course, there has been peculation in Cuba. Every one is ashamed of it. But in no government ever instituted has that not occurred. But it will never turn out that any man in any country can point to the Teller resolution and say with truth that it was a delusive lie.

Hale—I hope so.

Spooner—The Senator need not hope so. He had beter know so.

In reply to Spooner's defense of this Government's action in Cuba, Tillman declared that our agents on the islands were carpet-baggers, and the sooner they got out the better.

"Oh," replied Spooner, "if the Senator from South Carolina finds a carpet-bagger in heaven when he gets there, he will prefer to go to the other place."

"I certainly will," replied Tillman.

Continuing, Spooner said if Bryan should ever become President of the United States he believed he would appoint men to proceed to Cuba and the other island possessions just as McKinley was appointing them. After a spirited colloquy between Spooner and Tillman, in which the latter expressed the belief that Bryan, as President, could settle the pending question in a different way than that adopted by McKinley, Allen (Pop. Neb.) rose and protested against making a "political football" of Bryan's name.

"Of course," retorted Spooner, sarcastically, "I am willing to receive lessons in political etiquette from the Senator from Nebraska." (Laughter).

Further along, Spooner, discussing Aguinaldo as an "ally" of the United States, declared his belief that the Filipino leader was in league with the Spaniards to drive the Americans from the Philippine Islands. He read a letter from Aguinaldo to the Spanish General in command at Ilo Ilo, in which the expression occurred: "We may yet save from shipwreck the sovereignty of Spain in the islands."

Soon afterward Spooner yielded the floor without having completed his speech, and after a brief executive session, the Senate, at 5:20 P. M., adjourned.

GERMAN MEAT BILL.

Adopted by the Reichstag—Some of Its Provisions.

BERLIN, May 23.—The Reichstag, voting today by roll-call, adopted the meat bill by 163 to 123 votes. In a provision prohibiting the importation of canned sausage meat, the bill provides that until December 31, 1903, the importation of fresh meat shall only be allowed in whole or in certain cases in half carcasses, and the importation of prepared meat shall only be permitted when it is proved to be innocuous, which is regarded as being impossible of proof in case of consignments of salt meat under four kilograms in weight. The bill also provides that after 1903 the importation of meat shall either be regulated by fresh legislation or the above mentioned provisions shall remain in force.

Queen's Birthday Banquets.

LONDON, May 23.—The usual Queen's birthday Ministerial banquets took place this afternoon. Lord Salisbury entertained at the Hotel Cecil. His guests included King Oscar, of Sweden and Norway, the Prince of Wales, Ambassador Choate and other diplomats.

The guests of Mr. Chamberlain and the Colonial office included the Canadian High Commissioner, Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, and the Australian Federation Delegates.

Mr. Goschen entertained the Duke of York, many Admirals, Commander Richardson Clover, the United States Naval Attache here, and other Naval Attaches.

In German Samoa.

BERLIN, May 23.—The disquieting news from Samoa, through English channels is discredited here. The Berliner Tageblatt, commenting upon it, says:

"This is merely additional evidence that the English continue intriguing in Samoa."

The Lokal Anzeiger prints correspondence from Samoa, describing the situation there as "satisfactory."

China Breaks Faith.

BERLIN, May 23.—The German Government intends to make strong representations at Peking, because the notorious Li Ping Hang, ex-Governor of Shan Tung, who is strongly hostile to Europeans and whom the Chinese Government, in 1897, dismissed from the Governorship on the demand of Germany, with an express promise that he should never again hold office, has been appointed Governor of the Shan Si district, one of the most important posts in China.

NO NEW CASES.

San Francisco Papers Insist There Has Been No Plague.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 23.—No more cases of plague have been reported by the Board of Health. The Chinese are not offering themselves for inoculation, but the Japanese show a disposition to aid the health authorities in every way. The local newspapers still insist there have been no cases of plague, and continue to denounce the Board of Health.

Chinese Protest.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The Chinese Minister has received numerous telegrams from Chinese residents of San Francisco, asking him to have revoked the order that they shall be inoculated with the anti-plague serum. The situation in San Francisco is very grave, as the Chinese have a great fear of this treatment, and serious trouble may ensue if it is continued. The Minister commented upon the fact that the whites are not being treated, and expressed the opinion that this was not fair.

EXTRADITION OF NEELY

HOUSE PASSES A BILL TO MEET THE CASE.

Ways and Means Committee Will Frame Bill During Recess for Reduction of War Taxes.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The blind chaplain, in his invocation in the House today, rather startled the House by referring to the Cuban frauds, which he said brought the blush of shame to the cheeks of every true American. "We pray," he continued, "that the culprit will be brought to speedy justice, that we may give an object lesson to the world in dealing with perfidy and fraud."

Payne (Rep. N. Y.), chairman of the ways and means committee, presented a resolution to empower the committee to sit during the recess to consider the reduction and revision of the war-revenue taxes.

"There is a great demand for the reduction of these taxes," observed Livingston (Dem. Ga.) "Why cannot the committee consider this subject now?"

"I will explain," said Payne, who offered 30 minutes on a side for debate.

"I object," said De Armond (Dem. Mo.). "The entire session has been frittered away. There is no necessity for cutting off debate on this resolution."

Payne then offered the resolution for a sine die adjournment June 6, and proceeded to answer the inquiry of Livingston on the other resolution. He explained that the total surplus for the 10 months and 22 days of the present fiscal year was $58,458,313. The surplus averaged $8,000,000 a month until April, when it fell to $4,000,000, and for the first 22 days of the present month to less than $1,000,000. He then explained the policy entered upon by the Treasury of refunding 4 and 5 per cent bonds in 2 per cents. Already about $25,000,000 of bonds had been exchanged. He pointed out the saving in interest that would result to the taxpayers. This refunding process, he said, did not show in the Treasury balances, but as a draft against the balance. Some $25,300,000 of those bonds remained to be refunded, or a draft of $53,000,000 against the surplus since March 14. That would cut down the balance to almost nothing, and, in view of the falling of the surplus in April and May, it would be unsafe to reduce the war tax now. He said the committee had given some hearings, and had found that all who paid war taxes favored their repeal or reduction, but the majority did not propose to enter upon legislation now that might create a deficit in the Treasury. (Republican applause.) During the recess the whole subject could be investigated, and a comprehensive and intelligent measure framed for introduction at the opening of the session in December.

Richardson (Dem. Tenn.), the minority leader, declared emphatically that Congress ought not to adjourn until some provision had been made for the reduction of the war taxes. The report of the Secretary of the Treasury showed that the surplus at the end of the fiscal year would be $30,000,000. The gentleman from New York might juggle figures, but he could not get away from the fact that the Secretary of the Treasury said there would be a vast surplus June 30. Richardson said he was in favor of repealing the tax on beer. (Democratic applause.)

Sulzer (Dem. N. Y.) declared that the Republicans never intended to repeal the war revenue act, and were playing politics.

Grosvenor (Rep. O.) called attention to the straits to which the Government had sometimes been put by failure of confidence in Administrations, and of the situation that arose in 1894, when a Democratic Secretary of the Treasury asked Congress for power to borrow $200,000,000 to meet current expenditures. Contingencies must be guarded against. If there was any assurances that the present regime would continue, Congress could proceed with more confidence.

"We can give no such assurances," observed Richardson. (Democratic laughter.)

The adjournment resolution was adopted without division.

Ray (Rep. N. Y.), chairman of the judiciary committee, then secured unanimous consent for the consideration of the Neely extradition bill.

De Armond unsuccessfully endeavored to offer an amendment to the bill. He then launched into a bitter and scathing denunciation of the "peculation and wholesale robbery proceeding with the rapid exploitation of imperialism in Cuba." De Armond said the disease might not be confined to Cuba, but might exist elsewhere, where it was contended the Constitution did not extend, but where only arbitrary power "controlled, dominated, plundered and disgraced."

Cannon (Rep. Ill.) supported the bill. He characterized De Armond as a "chronic calamity howler." The real province of a minority, he said, was to perfect and better legislation, not to oppose everything.

Lanham (Dem. Tex.) said the United States occupied such a fiduciary and confidential relation towards the Cubans that the utmost endeavors should be used to secure absolute faith and the fullest integrity in our relations with Cuba.

Williams (Dem. Miss.) said the inconsistency of the United States surrendering offenders to herself was the natural outcome of "carpet-baggery."

De Armond moved to recommit the bill "with instructions to report back the bill with amendments, so as to make it apply only to Cuba during its occupation by the United States, in accordance with our pledge to give Cuba independence. The motion to recommit was lost, and, debate being shut off by Ray calling for the previous question, the bill was passed without division.

The postoffice appropriation bill was sent to conference. Loud (Rep. Cal.), Gardner (Rep. N. J.), and Swanson (Dem. Va.) were appointed conferees.

The resolution to permit the ways and means committee to sit during the recess was then adopted without division or debate.

The Senate bill to provide a Collector of Customs at Honolulu, at a salary of $6000 a year, and deputies, was passed. It was arranged that the House should meet daily at 11 o'clock until the Alaskan code bill is disposed of.

At 5:30 P. M. the House adjourned.

SUNDRY CIVIL BILL.

The Amended Measure as Reported to the Senate.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The Senate committee on appropriations today concluded its work on the sundry civil appropriation bill, and reported the bill to the Senate. As amended by the committee, a net increase of $4,816,665 is made over the amount carried by the bill as it passed the House. An increase of $250,000 is made on account of improvements in the Missouri River. Other important additions are as follows: Relief light vessel for the 12th and 13th lighthouse districts (Pacific Coast), $80,000; lighthouse and fog signal stations in Alaskan waters, $150,000; improvements at Fort Russell, Wyo., $70,000. The Industrial Commission is continued until October 31, 1901, and $122,300 is appropriated for the payment of expenses. The total appropriation as reported is $65,692,370.

Other amendments are as follows: The President is authorized to employ an architect to prepare plans for the enlargement of the White House. The House provision giving the Commissioner-General of Immigration charge of the administration of the Chinese exclusion law is modified so as to place its direction under the Secretary of the Treasury. The Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of War and the Attorney-General are authorized to settle the accounts of the United States with California, Oregon and Nevada, because of advances made in the War of the Rebellion, the settlements to be reported to Congress.

Anti-Canteen Bill.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The anti-canteen bill was ordered favorably reported by the House committee on military affairs, with an amendment which will exclude liquor from the Capitol and other public buildings. The bill reported is known as the "Bowersock bill," applied to premises used "for military purposes." These words were stricken out by making the bill apply to "any premises used or owned by the United States."

The Grout Pure Food Bill.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Some time since the opponents of the Grout bill, regulating the oleomargarine traffic, secured the postponement of action, trusting that the bill would not be brought up for consideration in time for action at this session. The subcommittee today reported the bill to the full committee. An effort will be made to report the bill to the House, but it is doubtful if action can be secured.

BOERS SURRENDER.

Eight Hundred Give Up Their Arms at Vryburg.

KIMBERLEY, May 23.—About 80 Boers have surrendered at Vryburg, north of Kimberley, and a little more than half way between that place and Mafeking. The road is all clear from Mafeking, and all opposition in this district is practically ended.

ROBERTS PUSHING NORTHWARD.

Positions of the Three Advancing Columns.

LONDON, May 23.—Once more Lord Roberts is advancing in force. The wait at Kroonstad is over, and already the main British army is about 20 miles north of its former resting place, judging from the dispatch of Roberts' at Honig Spruit Station, while flanking him on either side of the railroad, French's cavalry and Hamilton's mounted infantry are both slightly in advance of Roberts, and threatening to envelope the Boer position, which extends for 20 miles due north. The main British army will probably advance along the railroad, while French converges from the west and Hamilton from the east. Against this overwhelming force the Boers will probably follow their usual tactics by retiring to positions which doubtless have been prepared in advance for their occupation. French and Hamilton are separated by about 40 miles, while Roberts is within 12 miles of French and 30 miles of Hamilton.

Since the last dispatch left Honing Spruit yesterday, Roberts has doubtless still further advanced, and by now is further engaging or following the retreating Boers. Definite dispatches received this morning make it clear that the Vaal River has not yet been crossed.

The first word from Colonel Baden-Powell at Mafeking heightens rather than diminishes the report heretofore cabled of the gallantry exhibited by the garrison During the closing days of the siege During an interview with the correspondent of the Reuter's Telegram Company, May 11, Baden-Powell said:

"My great endeavor is to prevent the relief force from trying to rush into the place before they are strong enough to do so. It would be better to make certain of relief in two months than to be beaten in an attempted relief in one month. Knowledge that the whole empire was watching with apprehension the good fighting of the garrison has been worth an extra pound of rations a day to the garrison. It was difficult to persuade the civilians of the necessity of submitting to martial law. We had our little difficulties, but later there was local acceptance of the military administration, and there was no trouble at all. The devotion of nurses and women generally was most marked."

Referring to the requests of newspapers for messages, Baden-Powell looked embarrassed and said:

"These chaps have got an exaggerated idea of the importance of my personality. I look upon myself as a figurehead of the good ship Mafeking. She had her stout canvas and her brave men, that really shoved the ship along, and brought her safely through a stormy cruise. So, whenever I read the nice things people say of me, I take it that they are said of the garrison, inasmuch as I am the head representative of the garrison."

BADEN-POWELL'S REPORT.

General Snyman Was Among the Boers Captured.

LONDON, May 23.—The War Office issued a dispatch from Roberts under date of Honig Spruit, May 22, announcing the receipt by him of the following message from Baden-Powell:

"Mafeking, May 17.—I am happy to inform you that Mafeking was successfully relieved today. The northern and southern columns joined hands on May 15 and attacked the enemy yesterday and after a small engagement entirely defeated them with loss. The British casualties were three killed and 22 wounded. The force marched into Mafeking at 9 this morning and the relief and defense forces combined and moved out and attacked the enemy's head laager. We shelled them out and yesterday captured Snyman and took one gun, a flag and a large amount of ammunition, stores, etc. Five dead Boers and 15 wounded Boers were found. The enemy appears to be retreating in all directions, except one commando, which is laying low, possibly to cover the retreat of the remainder."

Roberts' dispatch further says:

"Ian Hamilton reached Heilbron this morning, after a series of engagements with a oBer force under Dewet, who is retiring before him. Broadwood has captured 15 Boer wagons. There have been 75 casualties in Hamilton's force up to yesterday evening. We marched here this morning."

French Crosses the Rhenoster.

HONIG SPRUIT, O. F. S., May 23.—General French has crossed the Rhenoster River, northwest of here. This movement, combined with General Ian Hamilton's occupation of Heilbron, renders the Boer position 20 miles in the British front untenable. The latest reports received, however, say the burghers are prepared to make a strong resistance and possess 15 guns.

Warren Occupies Douglas.

CAPE TOWN, May 23.—General Warren occupied Douglas after heavy fighting and without sustaining any loss. The Boers have retreated to the north.

Conference of College Girls.

CAPITOLA, Cal., May 21.—The Young Women's Christian Association of the colleges and normal schools of the Pacific Coast is now in session at Capitola, the Summer resort on Monterey Bay. The college girls have taken possession of the place, and have the exclusive use of the hotel dining-room, auditorium, parlors, halls and clubroom from May 18 to May 28, at which latter date the conference will close.

Twenty-three delegates have arrived, and three more are expected. Five states are represented—Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada and California.

The mornings are devoted to study, and the afternoons to recreation and general jollity, and the college girls, in short skirts and braided hair, walk on the beach or roam over the hills, while college songs and rival college yells can be heard from every corner and nook.

Humbert Received Draper.

ROME, May 23.—King Humbert this afternoon received United States Ambassador Draper. The significance of the interview is not known.

Blood Humors

Are prevented and cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla.
Because it cures the most tenacious forms of Scrofula, even when other remedies do no good;
Because it subdues and permanently relieves terribly agonizing cases of Salt Rheum;
Because it conquers the severest conditions of Blood Poisoning and Hip Disease;
Because it so promptly corrects Biliousness, Headache, That Tired Feeling and Creates an Appetite.
Because it cures all other diseases caused by or originating in impure blood—Rheumatism, Catarrh, etc.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best Spring Medicine that money can buy.

TOUR OF DUTCH ENVOYS

THEY WILL CARRY THEIR CAMPAIGN TO THE PACIFIC COAST.

An Attempt to Win the Sympathy and Support of the Whole American People.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Mr. Fischer, one of the Boer envoys, spoke freely to a representative of the Associated Press today of their general plans for the future. He said it was their purpose to visit 10 or 12 of the principal cities of the United States and explain to the people whatever they might wish to know of their cause. They came to plead with the whole American people for sympathy and support. The cities which they will visit have not yet been determined upon, and in making their selections they will be guided by their friends. It is probable that they will eventually reach San Francisco, stopping en route at Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Louis and Cincinnati. Other cities have also been mentioned.

The envoys hope to complete their tour of the country within two months and be ready to leave for Europe, where they have planned to do important work. Mr. Fischer said that they did not contemplate making any set addresses, but would give the people plain talks, the subjects of which would depend entirely upon what particular phase of the great question at issue the people desired to be informed upon. He wanted it distinctly understood that he and his friends particularly wished to avoid any partisan demonstration that might be construed to mean that their sympathies with one political party in the United States was stronger than with another.

This afternoon they dined with Secretary Hay, and their movements hereafter will be determined by circumstances.

GERMAN TRADE.

Thousands Dependent Upon Commerce With United States.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Vice-Consul Murphy, at Magdeburg, has transmitted to the State Department an extract from a German publication of recent date, containing facts and figures which indicate strongly the prime importance of Germany's trade with the United States.

A statement of the exports to the United States from the consular districts in Northern Germany alone, for the first quarter of 1900, is shown as amounting to $18,196,000. The amount is nearly double the value of the exports during the first quarter of 1898. These figures are for Northern Germany alone. When the amounts for the remainder of the empire are added, the total is estimated at about $142,800,000.

"How many thousands of Germans who are now dependent upon this trade for support," says the article, "would be without bread if it were suddenly to stop. In the trade with the United States, Germany has won an important position, standing next to England in the matter of goods exported to the United States last year. In 1898, the United States imported $10,700,000 worth of sugar from Germany. The amount of sugar in bygone years that had been sent from Germany to the United States has varied with the crops, in favorable years as much as $23,800,000 worth being exported to that country. This immense trade in sugar," the article states, "will continue, provided peaceful and friendly relations are maintained in the United States. But if the Americans are forced into retaliation by the strict enforcement of the meat-inspection law and friendly trade relations are ruptured, the exportation of German sugar to the United States will come to a stop and Germany be left without a purchaser for the enormous mass of sugar produced."

CHINESE EXCLUSION LAW.

Minister Wu Does Not Want It Applied to the Philippines.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The President today sent to the Senate a series of letters from the Chinese minister, Wu Ting-Fang, setting forth reasons why, in the opinion of his Government, the Chinese exclusion law should not be made applicable to the Philippine Islands. The Minister said that for centuries very important relations have existed between China and the Philippines, owing to their contiguity and their favorable trade and industrial conditions. The Chinese, he says, have been always welcome, and up to the present time there has existed free intercourse and unrestricted trade. He expresses the hope that this will continue to be the case, and contends that our Chinese exclusion law was enacted solely because of labor conditions in the United States proper.

WITHDRAWAL OF DEPOSITS.

Gage's Notification to National Bank Depositories.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Secretary of the Treasury Gage has sent to the National Bank depositories the following letter of instructions, as to withdrawal of deposits:

"You are hereby directed to deposit, on or before June 5, prox., with an Assistant Treasurer of the United States, to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, as a transfer of funds from your bank, the sum of —— —— dollars. This direction is one of a series this day issued which will operate to transfer to the Sub-Treasury $5,000,000 of the surplus public moneys temporarily placed with depository banks, and the action is taken in anticipation of disbursements from the Treasury in the redemption of the $25,364,500 outstanding bonds of the funded loan of 1891, continued at 2 per cent, which were called by department circular of the 18th inst.

"It being the intention of the department to utilize temporary balances in depository banks for the payment of said bonds, further transfers will be ordered from time to time to keep pace, in a general way, with the demand for bond redemptions. Public notice has been given to the holders of the bonds in question that they may present said bonds for payment at any time before August 19 next, at which time interest will cease."

DEMAND ON THE PORTE.

United States Insists on a Prompt Settlement of Indemnity Claims.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 23. — The United States Legation, having vainly waited four weeks for a reply to the note of April 24 regarding the American indemnity claims, Lloyd C. Griscom, United States Charge d'Affaires, yesterday handed to Tewfik Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, a new note couched in more precise terms, and insisting upon a prompt settlement.

The note produced a great impression as the Porte thought the matter postponed, if not abandoned. It is believed that the United States will not wait so long this time for an answer, America's indulgence thus far not having made a satisfactory impression upon the Porte.

Will Fight Tobacco Trust.

NEW YORK, May 23.—Interests identified with the International Tobacco Company, soon to be organized in opposition to the American and Continental Tobacco Companies, announce that 10 additional options had been secured by them, located in various parts of the country, and that the work of incorporating the company will be accomplished before the expiration of the present week. It is said to be more than likely that the capitalization as originally proposed will be increased by several millions. It is planned, but not definitely decided, those interested say, to authorize the issue of $30,000,000 of stock, preferred and common, and it is expressly stated that there will be no bond issue. A meeting of owners of the leading constituent companies was held last night, but no news was given out for publication.

You ought to see
How Many
Beautiful Premiums
We Give
With Teas,
With Coffees,
With Spices,
With Extracts,
With Soda,
With Baking Powder,
Great Eastern Importing Tea Co.
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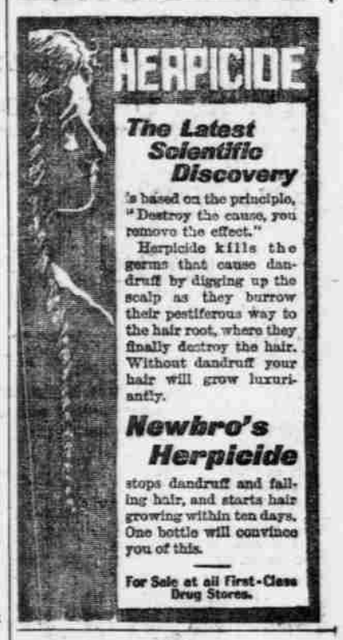
326 Washington Street, Portland.
115 Grand Avenue, E. Portland.



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Newbro's Herpicide
stops dandruff and falling hair, and starts hair growing within ten days. One bottle will convince you of this.
For Sale at all First-Class Drug Stores.

SICK HEADACHE
Positively cured by these Little Pills.
They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They Regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable.
Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

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No Fusel Oil.
The World's Famous Medicinal Whiskey
(A distillation of pure malt)
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