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ALM AT FRANKFORT

Republican Legislators Resumed Their Sessions.

DEMOCRATS DID NOT SHOW UP

Governor Taylor Countenanced His Order Sending Home the Militia—Injunction Proceedings.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Feb. 12.—This was another day of unbroken calm in Frankfort. The republican members of the legislature met at noon, and after appointing committees to inform Governor Taylor that, pursuant to the terms of his proclamation adjourning the legislature at London and calling it to Frankfort, they had come to this city and were prepared to transact such business as must come before them. The governor acknowledged the message, and both houses adjourned until tomorrow. There were nine members in the senate and 28 in the house.

The committee which was expected to come from the democratic members at Louisville, to report whether it is safe for them to come to Frankfort, did not put in an appearance during the day. The republican leaders say that they expect nothing new to transpire until after Judge Taft, in Cincinnati, has rendered his decision Wednesday.

Today Governor Taylor declined to order away all of the soldiers now here, with the exception of a few for a personal body guard. He had sent for Colonel Williams and given orders for the moving of the troops, but several of his friends urged so strongly that the soldiers be permitted to remain that Governor Taylor changed his intention and said that, for the present at least, he would not have any more of them returned to their homes.

PLANS OF THE DEMOCRATS.

They Will Confine Their Efforts to the State Courts.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 12.—The efforts of the democratic lawyers were directed today toward mapping out plans to secure the adjudication of the claims of Taylor and Beckham to the office of governor. There is danger of a clash as long as the present positions are maintained. Judge Fryer believes the injunction suit now pending before Cantrell at Frankfort will be useless as far as determining the main issue is concerned, because its object is to prevent Governor Taylor from interfering with the legislature, or adjourning it to his will probably by a suit at law in behalf of the Beckham party to establish the legality of the action of the legislature in declaring him ousted, and to secure possession of the office, or by a petition in equity to restrain the military from exercising the duties of the office of governor.

The democrats will continue their efforts in the state courts, their contention being that federal courts have no jurisdiction in the case. The republicans either by appeal or original proceedings before Judge Taft, will endeavor to get their claims before the federal courts, but their course will depend largely upon that adopted by the democrats. Petitions in the governorship cases were drawn up for submission to Judge Taft with that affecting the minor offices, but were held up temporarily because of the peace negotiations.

Both houses of the legislature met at the courthouse today. When the house convened an important resolution which had passed the senate was presented, calling upon Taylor to once to withdraw the militia and force of armed men which he has gathered about him in the watershed and surrender the executive offices to Beckham, the lawful governor. Under the rules the resolution went over for one day. In both houses a bill was introduced offering a reward of \$100,000 for the detection of Gobel's murderer.

ROOSEVELT DOES NOT WANT IT.

Will Not Be McKinley's Running Mate. Names Now Mentioned.

New York, Feb. 12.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: Governor Roosevelt will not accept the nomination for the vice-presidency on the republican ticket. He will be a candidate for a second term in the executive mansion at Albany. This, the substance of a communication received by Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, from the governor was conveyed to the president. Senator Lodge did not consider the message he received from Governor Roosevelt confidential. He accordingly distributed the information freely among republican leaders here.

Governor Roosevelt's positive declaration to accept second place on the presidential ticket is the leading topic of discussion tonight among republican leaders in Washington. Thus getting himself out of the Governor Roosevelt has reopened the field of speculation as to who will be President McKinley's running mate. Senator Scott, of West Virginia, a member of the national committee, said he received information, which came direct from Governor Roosevelt, announcing positively that he would not accept the nomination for the vice-presidency, even if it should be tendered to him by the unanimous vote of the national convention.

"There are some of us," added Senator Scott, "who are inclined to look to the far West for a running mate for President McKinley in the next campaign. I hear the names of Senator Spooner, of Wisconsin; Senator Fairbanks, of Indiana, and General Harrison Gray Otis, of California, frequently mentioned in the event of New York falling to present an acceptable candidate."

WANTS AN EARLY CONVENTION.

Democrats Will Probably Meet Before the Republicans.

New York, Feb. 12.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: Before Mr. Bryan left Washington Saturday he held an important conference with some of the democratic leaders and it was decided that the democratic national convention should be held prior to the republican and populist conventions.

It is understood that Mr. Bryan is anxious that his party shall take the field, announce its platform and prepare for the national convention before his political rivals declare their campaign intentions. He is particularly anxious to anticipate the action of the populist party, which he fears may be guilty of political indiscretions which may injure his cause.

Oregon Notes.

Three men are on their way to the new town of Granite, each with a plan for a weekly newspaper.

C. R. Hunt is about to build a new barn on his Tillamook dairy ranch, for which 45,000 feet of lumber will be required.

SEIZED SOUTHPAN'S DRIFT.

Wood Now Holds It—Bombardment of Kimberly Continues.

London, Feb. 12.—A private telegram received here says: "The forces commanded by General Wood have moved up from the southward and seized Southpan's drift, which he now holds."

CONFIDENCE IN ROBERTS.

Inhabitants of Kimberley Dying at Remarkable Rate.

New York, Feb. 13.—The striking feature of the war situation in London is the boundless confidence reposed in Lord Roberts. General Buller's report of his

BRITISH DRIVEN BACK

Latest Reports Are Very Discouraging to 'British.

THERE IS NO PROGRESS YET

England is Anxious Over Threatened Boer Raid Through Zululand.

RENSBURG, Feb. 13.—The Boers are actively pressing around Rensburg. The British force under Lieutenant-Colonel Page, consisting of a section of artillery and 150 cavalry, which had reached Slingersfontein February 10, has been compelled to fall back on Rensburg, owing to its eastern flank being threatened.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—A dispatch to the Evening News from Rensburg says: "The various outposts on both sides suffering heavy losses. The dispatch adds that it is doubtful if Rensburg be held."

LONDON, Feb. 13.—The cessation of war news from South Africa is taken to indicate that the British preparations for a move from Modder river are progressing and that important events are unanticipated within a few days. Interest centers almost wholly upon Field Marshal Roberts, especially since Buller's report of his withdrawal from Vaalkrantz came, for the first time, through Roberts, showing that all the different operations over the wide field will hereafter be more completely co-ordinated.

BATTLE OF COLENSO.

Interesting Description of Buller's First Defeat on Tugela.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 13.—A special to the Record from Victoria, B. C., says: A letter received by Mrs. A. A. Humphreys, of this city, from a captain of a border regiment, since wounded at Spionkop, gives a graphic description of the loss of the British guns at the Tugela river. The letter was dated at Pietermaritzburg, December 21, and in part says: "People hardly realize yet what a big undertaking this is turning out to be. Everything points to the Boers having not less than 60,000 men in the field, with guns superior to ours in range, and little belated in our marksmanship, and until we get out a lot more troops, there is no likelihood of our doing much more than hold them in check."

"They are undoubtedly following out a plan of campaign which they have worked out in all detail in peace times, and they are carrying it out most perfectly. They have spies everywhere and are always prepared to meet any move on our part almost before we've begun. We are exactly the reverse and never seem to know what they are doing nor how many there are of them in any direction. We won't trust a single colonial (Cape Colony)."

"We have a first-class topographical map of the frontier, but no military map of these parts, and no one knows which hill commands another, or what kind of positions there are on the other side of the mountains facing us. We are exactly like the French in the Franco-German war, with excellent maps of the enemy's country, but with none of our own. The Boer positions are on all the high ridges and hills. They extend for miles and command every bit of ground in front. The hills behind are prepared for defense. If they are driven back from one position they don't have to go very far to get behind a new line of resistance. Water is far from plentiful and the transports scarce, so we have to stick pretty well to the railway. Buller has a hard nut to crack in the Boer position in front of us—Colenso hills depending on the river Tugela, which we must cross and which is only fordable in places few and far between."

"We tried to do so last Friday and had a battle. We were 20,000 strong and the Boers between 10,000 and 14,000. Our brigade, the Fifth, attacked on the left, but our brigadier made an awful mess of it, and Buller ordered him to withdraw, which we did after 32 were killed and wounded. Something went wrong with the right brigade, and the officer commanding the Royal artillery advanced his guns up to within 700 yards of the Boer position and trenches long before the infantry were at hand to support him. The Boers allowed the guns to be unlimbered and then poured such a hail of bullets that the teams of two batteries were killed in a very short time. When the gunners were shot down, the attack could not be carried out, and Buller had to give the order to retire, and 10 guns had to be abandoned. Our total loss was 1147, and all for nothing. Buller almost wept and was heard to exclaim: 'My brigadiers have sold me.'"

"We shall have another division here shortly and will then have 30,000 men, and as the Boers have been receiving reinforcements, they will number not far from 20,000, and all in splendid positions. The shrieking and bursting of shells and the roar of battle and the thousands of Manners, Lee-Metfords and Maxims laid Friday was something awful. The heat, too, was dreadful, but the men behaved splendidly."

third report, published today, aroused no harsh criticism, for some of the experts say the attack was only a feint ordered by Lord Roberts with a view to keeping General Buller busy and preventing his sending reinforcements to General Cronje at Kimberley. The pitiful condition of the inhabitants of Kimberley, who are dying of disease at an appalling rate, leads to the belief that Lord Roberts, with his fine army of 35,000 men, will endeavor to raise the siege at once.

On the other hand, experts say that invasion of the Free State would be wiser tactics. But whatever Lord Roberts does will be accepted as the best thing to do.

The Boer raid in Zululand continues to alarm Natal. It is believed the Transvaal will sweep vast herds of cattle out of Zululand and then raid northeastern Natal.

A dispatch from Pietermaritzburg states that fresh meat is abundant in Natal, 30 oxen being slaughtered daily, and that the Boers have over 100 guns between the Tugela river and Ladysmith, and the Boer artillery fire greatly impressed all who see it, the guns being mounted in almost impossible places.

Charles Williams, the military critic of the Morning Leader, who is understood to have close relations with Lord Wolseley, the commander-in-chief of the British army, writes as follows: "The government last night refused to say whether Lord Roberts and Kitchener were sent to the front without consultation with Lord Wolseley or not. It has already been stated in this place, and it is again asserted. Lord Wolseley learned the news from Monday morning papers and the appointments were made on the previous Saturday."

The remainder of the criticism is devoted to the government's army plans. The writer declares: "The ministerial scheme developed last night in both houses is in the main a colossal, costly imposture, declared at once to hoax the country into the belief that some satisfactory reform of our military system is at length to be accomplished and to throw dust in the eyes of foreign nations."

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