

The Morning Astorian.

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NO. 293



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MAFEKING MAY AT LAST HAVE FALLEN

No News Has Reached Roberts From There Since May 7.

THE RELIEF COLUMN DUE

But Advice by Way of Pretoria Say the Boers Succeeded in Overcoming the Starving Forces, and Have Entered the Town—Doubted in England.

LONDON, May 16.—"Food will last until about June 10," is the latest official word from Colonel Baden-Powell, the British commander at Mafeking, sent to Lord Roberts under date of May 7.

Five days later the Boers attempted to storm the town and it is possible that they succeeded, although nothing is known of the attack, or of its results, except through Pretoria sources, which have no countenance here.

The British relief column is due there now. Ten days ago General Snyman was having difficulty in keeping the Boers together, owing to the approach of the British, and when the last Associated Press dispatch left Mafeking, May 7, the Boers had killed, on the previous day, one of the horse guards and had captured several of Colonel Baden-Powell's few remaining horses.

Major F. J. Baileys has sent to the Morning Post from Mafeking, under date of May 7, this message:

"This morning the Boers attacked us. Result as usual. There is an aching void here. Pass the loaf."

The Transvaal army has taken a position at Blaauwbaaschort Pass, near the Holbroun road station, 50 miles north of Kroonstad. Its rear guard is still holding the hills north of Valch river, while the Boer scouts are in touch with the British reconnoitering parties twenty miles north of Kroonstad.

The Boers have held a council of war at Lingley and the British spies have learned that the Boers decided to hold Harrismith as long as possible. Lord Roberts' infantry are still at Kroonstad. The railway laborers are hard at work and the engineers hope to have the line repaired within three days. The nights are bitterly cold but the days are hot.

It is estimated that the Transvaalers can still muster 20,000 men on the fighting line.

LONDON, May 16.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Lourenco Marques, dated Tuesday, says:

"There is now no doubt that there was desperate fighting at Mafeking on Saturday, but it is believed to have gone in favor of the garrison. All that can be ascertained of a reliable character follows:

"The Boers, using artillery, attacked the town Saturday. Very soon the Kaffir location was in flames. Fighting at close quarters then became general, and in the midst of the confusion the Boers gained possession of the Kaffir location, from which point of advantage they brought guns to bear on the town at close range.

"By an adroit movement, the garrison, despite its attenuated numbers, succeeded in actually surrounding the party of Boers who had captured the Kaffir location. Severe fighting followed, but, according to the latest reports, the Boers still hold the location in which they are probably surrounded."

A telegram signed by General Snyman says: "I was lucky enough to capture Baden-Powell with 900 men this morning."

No credence is given this statement.

LOURENCO MARQUES, May 15.—Telegrams received here report very heavy fighting at Mafeking. Pretoria reports that Mafeking has fallen and the Netherlands Railroad Company has issued a statement that Colonel Baden-Powell has captured a large force of Boers.

LONDON, May 15.—The war office this evening issued an abstract of the British casualties since the beginning of the war. This shows a total of 29,635, exclusive of the sick in the field

and invalids, including the wounded, sent home, who number 8,501.

LONDON, May 15.—Lady Sarah Wilson has wired her sister, Lady Georgiana Curzon, from Mafeking, under date of May 3, saying: "Our breakfast consisted of horse sausages and our lunch of minced mule and curried locusts. All well."

LONDON, May 15.—The war office has received the following from Lord Roberts, dated Kroonstad, May 15: "Baden-Powell reports, under date of May 7, all going well. The fever is decreasing; the garrison is cheerful and the food will last until about June 10."

MASERU, Beaufortland, May 15.—A portion of Beabant's horse occupied Ladybrand today and another portion is pushing on to Clocalan.

KROONSTAD, Monday, May 14.—It is reported that the whole of the Boer forces are concentrating on the Vaal, withdrawing from Biggarsburg and the southwestern border.

It is computed that not more than 2000 Free Staters will fight on the Vaal. Railway communication with this place is expected to be open on Thursday. The transport is working smoothly, the troops and horses are receiving full rations. Water is plentiful and the health of the troops is excellent.

SOUNDS VERY PRETTY.

The Boer Envoys Have Come to "Lay Their Burden of Persecution at the Feet of the Statue of Liberty."

NEW YORK, May 15.—According to the Pretoria correspondent of the Herald, the commission composed of Messrs. Fischer, Wessels and Wolmarins, and representing the republics of the Transvaal and Orange Free State, which is expected to arrive here today, is empowered to take important action.

The correspondent says: "I have the highest authority for making the statement that, rather than see their country conquered by England, the commissioners are empowered to ask the United States to assume a protectorate over the republics, this protectorate to tend, if desired, toward eventual annexation as territories or states."

Secretary of State Reitz, who is rapidly breaking down under the strain he is undergoing, voiced this national hope in these words:

"We will maintain our independence if we can. If we cannot we will appeal to the American people to take us under their wing. Surely the Declaration of Independence is broad enough to span the ocean. Our last hope is that, having again and again carried our burden of persecution into the wilderness to escape from England we may be permitted to deposit it at the foot of the Statue of Liberty, to find peace and contentment and protection under the Stars and Stripes."

LANDED AT NEW YORK.

The Boer "Peace" Envoys Have Been Duly Placed on Exhibition.

NEW YORK, May 15.—The steamship Maasdam, with the peace envoys from the South African republics, arrived today, twelve days from Rotterdam. The envoys, Abraham Fischer, J. A. A. Wolmarins and C. H. Wessels, were met by a committee which went down the bay to greet them and later were welcomed by a larger body of sympathizers, gathered on the pier at Hoboken.

The mayor of that city extended a welcome to them and tendered them the freedom of the city. The party then took carriages for the Hotel Manhattan, where the envoys will lodge during their stay in this city.

THE C. N. & C. CO.

New President Elected Yesterday and More Money Appropriated for the Road.

SPOKANE, May 15.—Colonel I. N. Peyton, of Spokane, was today elected president of the Central Navigation and Construction Company, to succeed Wm. J. Harris. This is the company that is building the portage road on the Columbia river between The Dalles and Celilo and is constructing steamers to run on the river.

Two hundred thousand dollars additional was appropriated toward completing the undertaking.

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one found guilty of such offense,
will be liable to prosecution.

MARCUS DALY IS OUTWITTED

Senator Clark Resigns His Seat, to Be Appointed to Senate.

HIS PATHETIC STATEMENT

He Was the Victim of an Old Conspiracy by Daly, and the Use of Money in His Campaign Was Brought About by Daly's Campaign Methods.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Senator Clark, of Montana, today announced his resignation from the United States senate.

At the close of the morning business in the senate, Mr. Clark rose to a matter of personal privilege and read a prepared speech and a letter, dated May 11, announcing his resignation. At the conclusion of Clark's speech many senators crowded around him and shook his hand most cordially.

As soon as order was restored, Chandler asked that consideration of the resolution declaring the seat vacant be postponed until tomorrow, which was done.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—In his statement to the senate, as Senator Clark adverted to his desire to hand down to his children a name untarnished by even the breath of disgrace, tears welled to his eyes and his voice trembled with emotion. He almost broke down. Then, bracing himself, he read the letter he had sent to the governor of Montana, tendering his resignation.

He then introduced an original affidavit by George E. McGrath, in support of the contention that the political opposition to him (Clark) is the result of a conspiracy set on foot by Daly, in 1882. McGrath says that Daly told him then that the only effective course to pursue was to charge Clark, morning, noon and night, with bribery, "with hope of creating public sentiment which would force him (Clark) to resign." McGrath also stated that Daly then suggested that some of his men should "procure money from Clark or his agents on a promise of voting for him, arise in the legislature and exhibit the money and state how they procured it."

"This is the only way I now see to accomplish his defeat," said Daly, adding that the time had come for "something more than Sunday school politics." Clark added that McGrath had been in Washington for five weeks during the investigation, but had been constantly refused a hearing by the committee. Clark referred with evident feeling to Congressman Campbell's part in the prosecution. He charged Campbell with neglecting the duties of his office and prosecuting the case.

Clark next took up the large expenditures of money in the campaign. "It must not be overlooked," he said, "that these expenditures covered three distinct campaigns. If senators knew the conditions which confronted the people of Montana they would not wonder that such action was necessary." He then entered upon a review of the politics of the state, declaring that never until Marcus Daly's advent in 1876, thirteen years after he (Clark) had gone to Montana, did he see or hear of dollars being spent in politics there. He said: "He introduced the system soon after his advent, and through this and the coercions which he invariably employed, his success was almost certain."

Clark followed this with a denunciation of the methods of Daly in Montana politics, reviewing his course in the elections and in the state capital fight, where he charged the Anaconda Company with spending a million of dollars.

He continued: "How was it possible to attack this un-American despotism without the great effort, which only money could make? I was in a position to aid in this work, and I am proud that I undertook it. It was done legitimately and with honesty of purpose, and although here, where conditions are fully understood, I have received some censure, the finest people of my state approved my action and will accord me grateful recognition."

Clark then made a brief review of his own career. "I was born," he said, "amid the humble surroundings of farm life in Pennsylvania. I have occupied many positions of honor and trust. I was never in all my life charged with a dishonorable act and I propose to leave to my children a legacy worth more than gold—an unblemished name."

HELENA, Mont., May 15.—Acting Governor Spriggs tonight appointed Wm. A. Clark, of Butte, United States senator to serve until the next legislature shall elect his successor. Senator Clark's resignation was filed early in the day with the governor, and tonight he was appointed by Acting Governor Spriggs to succeed himself.

Gov. Spriggs has all along been the friend of Senator Clark during his can-

didacy for the senate and since. Governor Smith, a supporter of the Daly people, left the state two weeks ago for California to attend to some mining cases in which he is retained as attorney.

At that time it is said there was no thought of Senator Clark resigning, and his enemies were confident he would be unseated by the United States senate. The resignation filed today came as a surprise to the people of the state, who had no inkling of the coup prepared. During the day Governor Spriggs received a great many telegrams from all over the state, urging him to appoint Senator Clark.

Governor Spriggs was besieged all day by individuals and by delegations, friendly and hostile to Clark.

The legislature voted for Clark. Senator Clark tonight wired Acting Governor Spriggs his acceptance of the United States senatorship.

HELENA, Mont., May 15.—In the republican county convention today, a resolution to censure republican members of the legislature who voted for W. A. Clark, of Butte, democrat, for United States senator, was voted down. Eleven of the sixteen republicans in

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Senators generally declined to express opinions upon the effect of the appointment of Clark by the lieutenant governor of Montana. Senator Chandler, chairman of the committee on privileges and elections, would only say: "I reckon the trick won't work."

According to the opinions of Senators McComas, Caffery and Jones, of Arkansas, if the senate adopts the resolution of the committee on privileges and elections it will be as though a vacancy had existed all the time, and the governor would then have no power to appoint.

Senator Frye, president pro tem of that senate, said that under present conditions a vacancy existed. He had ordered Clark's name stricken from the roll on the statement that he had resigned. If Senator Clark presented credentials in due form he would be sworn in, unless objection was made.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Senator Clark tonight received the following telegram from Helena announcing his appointment:

"I have the honor to inform you that I have this day appointed you to fill the vacancy in the Montana representation in the senate of the United States. I send you a certificate by registered mail. I trust you will accept the appointment."

"A. E. SPRIGGS, Acting Governor."

HE IS TOO LATE.

GRASS VALLEY, Cal., May 15.—Governor Smith, of Montana, left here this afternoon for Montana, via Salt Lake. His departure was unexpected and was hastened by the news of Senator Clark's resignation and his re-appointment by Lieutenant Governor Spriggs. Governor Smith left before the news of Senator Clark's resignation was made public here, and no expression could be obtained from him.

THE ST. LOUIS STRIKE.

Two Men Shot in a Riot Which Took Place Yesterday.

ST. LOUIS, May 15.—The feature of the street car situation today was a riot which broke out on the opening of the Grand avenue line of the St. Louis Transit Company during the progress of which two men were shot. At midnight the transit company and its 3,000 striking employees were no nearer the adjustment of their differences than they were at the same time yesterday.

The Suburban Company, pursuant to an agreement effected yesterday with its striking employees, ran on full schedule time day and night.

WILL STAND NO NONSENSE.

Contractor for Chicago Federal Building Will Resume Work in Spite of the Strikers.

CHICAGO, May 15.—The Tribune says:

Work on the Federal building is to be resumed immediately, regardless of the demands of Chicago labor unions or of the existing labor troubles. Contractor Pierce says he will employ any capable man, regardless of his affiliations with labor organizations. The federal government will be depended upon to protect such workmen.

A large portion of the stone that will be used in the construction of the post-office building will be that which has been cut by non-union men.

MONSIEUR MARTINELLI ARRIVES.

Portland, May 15.—Monsieur Martinielli, papal delegate to the United States, arrived here this evening for the purpose of bestowing the pallium on Archbishop Christy, lately appointed archbishop of Oregon.

LIL GOING HOME.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Lilikoukani, ex-queen of Hawaii, and her retinue will leave Washington today for Honolulu. Her health is much improved and it is not likely that she will return to this country.

WE MAY LOSE THE DANISH ISLANDS

Denmark Considering a Plan to Avoid Their Sale.

HAVE DELAYED TOO LONG

Democratic Objection in Congress to Extension Has Cost the Country One of the Greatest Commercial Advantages of the Century.

NEW YORK, May 15.—An article in the Vorland, the organ of the Danish government in Copenhagen, states that Denmark is considering a plan to put an end to the Danish West India islands muddle by placing the islands in the hands of a chartered company, which will conduct their affairs under the Danish flag, and thereby cutting off Germany as well as the United States from obtaining possession of the islands.

It is perfectly well understood in diplomatic circles in Washington, it is stated, that unless congress acts on the matter during this session, this government cannot become a purchaser. From the time the sale of the islands was mooted prominent business men have contended that the sale of the islands should not take place.

According to Vorland, it was understood by the promoters from the start that it would be necessary to reform the enormously expensive administration of the islands and wipe out the old monopolies.

The first plan is to start a national bank at St. Thomas, to which the government has already given private consent.

The present customs regulations will be abolished and new ones instituted. A local steamship line will be run between St. Croix and St. Thomas and side trips will be made to Puerto Rico.

The customs regulations are to be changed to increase the freight traffic. The exports from St. Thomas to St. Croix from 1897 to 1898 amounted to \$107,500, and from St. Croix to St. Thomas \$4,700.

A steamship line between the islands and the United States will be maintained. Coal stations will be operated at St. Thomas and these will be on a large scale.

CROKER TO BE OSTRACISED.

He Blows Hot and Cold Both on the Boer War Question.

LONDON, May 15.—The Express of today advocates the ostracism of Richard Croker in England, in revenge for Tammany's attitude on the Boer war. It says:

"It has not escaped notice in this country that an American welcome to the Boer delegates has been inspired and encouraged by Tammany Hall, which is controlled by the notorious boss, Dick Croker."

"The records of Tammany are already black enough without the addition of this new infamy. But what makes the action of Tammany peculiarly infamous now is the fact that Croker claims the hospitality of an English domicile, poses as an English country gentleman and runs racehorses on the English turf, yet is aiding and encouraging the worst of England's enemies."

"Croker's position is practically on all fours with that of the Duke of Orleans. The duke has already paid the penalty of having fallen under the ban of social ostracism."

"If Croker finds that the bracing air of the United States does not invariably suit his constitution, he should secure the calm seclusion of an Italian villa within reach of the Duke of Orleans, whose company he will probably find congenial."

READY TO ADJOURN.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—The house today sent to the senate the last of the general appropriation bills, the military academy bill, and will be ready to adjourn as soon as the senate disposes of those it has not passed and the two houses adjust their differences in conference.

WRECK ON PUGET SOUND.

Brig Tanner Ashore Below Point Wilson With a Cargo of Nona Lumber.

PORT TOWNSEND, May 15.—The brig Tanner, sailing from here for Cape Nome with a cargo of lumber, went ashore two miles below Point Wilson at 6 o'clock this evening at extreme high tide. She was towed to the middle of the stream by a tug and as soon as she made sail, the tug let go and shortly thereafter she struck on the beach. A strong west wind is blowing, the sea is breaking over her and she will be a total wreck.