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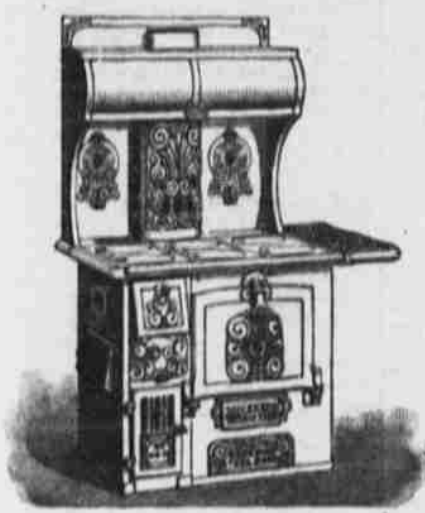
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The Morning Astorian.

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MILITARY POSITION NOT YET DECISIVE

It is Believed Boers May Yet Re-
cover Their Own.

INDEPENDENCE OR DEATH

Boers Will Continue to Fight Indefinitely
Since Their Homes and Property
Have Been Destroyed and They
Seek Revenge.

LONDON, March 20.—The Westminster Gazette this afternoon makes pessimistic comment on General Botha's refusal to accept the peace terms offered by Lord Kitchener, and connects this refusal with the situation in China. The Gazette says the powers are at sixes and sevens in the far East, and that any day may see the commencement of a struggle from which the Boers may recover their own. The failure of these peace negotiations means that the military position in South Africa is not yet decisive.

BOTHA HELD RESPONSIBLE.

NEW YORK, March 20.—In making the announcement that the peace negotiations with General Botha had been broken off, a dispatch from London to the Tribune says:

Mr. Chamberlain spoke in a conversational tone without accentuating the importance of it by tone or gesture. He also spoke guardedly and carefully so that no false inference could be drawn from his admission that the negotiations had failed. Lord Kitchener was credited with offering terms which General Botha was not disposed to recommend to the other Boer leaders. The responsibility for the continuance of guerrilla warfare to the bitter end consequently rests with General Botha and those whom he has consulted. This was the impression which Mr. Chamberlain clearly meant to convey.

The fact that he made the explanation proved that Sir Alfred Milner rather than Lord Kitchener has been attempting to negotiate with the Boer leaders, since otherwise Mr. Broderick would have been the one to announce the unpleasant news.

The promptness with which the full details of the negotiations are promised indicates a desire on the part of the government that the terms offered to the Boers may be known for the moral effect here and in South Africa.

The Ministerialist accepted General Botha's answer philosophically as a proof that the war must go on until the Boer leaders are captured and that the chancellor of the exchequer might as well nig-on-hole his more favorable budget and warn taxpayers to prepare for the worst, the sugar duty as well as the increased income tax. The pro-Boer Liberals, who are looking for strange revelations from Holland, are predicting that General Botha will have a version of the negotiations quite different from the one authorized by the colonial office.

KRUGER HAS FULL POWER.

NEW YORK, March 20.—A dispatch from London to the Herald gives an interview with D. Erasmus, son of General Erasmus, of Pretoria, on the probable consequences of General Botha's refusal to accept the terms of peace. He said:

"The English public for some unknown reason has looked upon the war all along as mere child's play, notwithstanding the lessons it received in the commencement of the war. Four hundred Boers are quite sufficient to harass the entire army for an indefinite period in the district north of Pretoria. Regular cavalry cannot operate there. It is deep sand which gives the nearest foothold. Owing to the fever, the British can operate but six months in the year. The Boers from childhood have accustomed themselves to this climate and can stop there without much harm.

"In foreign countries people who are trying to make mischief out of the English reverses read in them disgrace to the British army. But I can assure those pretended friends of my people that if they had to do what the British are now trying to accomplish,

they might have done very much worse or succeeded less well in fighting."

The Boers, he said, can get plenty of food, horses and ammunition. As an alternative for Sir Alfred Milner as a negotiator with the Boers, Mr. Erasmus suggests that England should send some impartial Englishman, free from all party feeling. Lord Kitchener's name will not go either. He has been too much associated with Mr. Cecil Rhodes. You remember how their names were connected together when Lord Kitchener was in London; how they were coupled and how they took director's degrees together.

"The end," said Erasmus, "will be when the Boers remaining must be either caught and exterminated or given independence. There was a time after Pretoria was taken when many Boers deserted or surrendered in the belief that they would find their houses and families as they left them, as they were allowed to go free, promising not to fight again. The end of the war was then possible. My people were ready to give in. But when the Boers returned to their homesteads and found their farms burned and their families gone, they knew not where they were, they were ruined men. From that day on it should be well understood, the war became one of revenge and no longer one of patriotism. Picture to yourself the situation. It is perfectly simple to understand the bitterness of the Boers.

"The only terms satisfactory would be re-stocking the farms and making good that which has been destroyed. Otherwise why should our men continue to fight. They have lost everything and therefore have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

"Mr. Kruger is still absolutely president of the Transvaal republic. People say he ran away. That is untrue. He was forced to leave by the executive. It took 5000 men to guard him. We needed those men elsewhere. Moreover it was considered that he would be more useful over here.

"It is perfect nonsense to say he is worth billions. At most he may be worth a million, which he made from the purchase and sale of lands, just as any other man might. But much money has been entrusted to him for state purposes. That money he spends in the manner which is indicated to him and as intended by the Boer executive.

"Mr. Kruger may have lost some weight with a certain number of people of the extreme section. But, remember this—it is important—Mr. Kruger is the one man today who could, if he liked, bring the war to an end. He could finish it tomorrow if he willed. When peace comes it will be made by the people appointed to make it, Mr. Kruger and the extraordinary commission sent over by the Boers, Messrs. Wolmarans, Wessels and Fischer. They have full power to act."

"And the Boer forces today?"

"I estimate them to number from 10,000 to 12,000," concluded Mr. Erasmus.

RANCHER MURDERED.

End of Longstanding Quarrel Between
Washington Farmers.

SEATTLE, March 20.—W. R. Ross, a rancher living near Kent, about fifteen miles south of this city, was shot and instantly killed by Alex Simpson, another rancher, this morning.

The shooting was witnessed only by Simpson's 15-year-old son. The shooting was the outcome of a longstanding quarrel between the two men about a fence which Ross had placed across a portion of the county road. The fence kept Simpson from getting into his property and he tore it down several times, the last time being last night.

This morning Ross started toward Simpson's house but was met by the latter, who commanded him to halt. Ross still advanced and Simpson then took careful aim and fired the fatal shot. He was brought to the county jail here this evening.

CAPE WRATH POSTED MISSING.

LONDON, March 20.—The British bark Cape Wrath, Captain Hart, from Calcutta, November 2, for Astoria, Oregon, last reported outside of Astoria, January 15, and then disappeared, has been posted at Lloyd's as missing.

RECORD AGAIN BROKEN.

NEW YORK, March 20.—A seat on the New York stock exchange was sold today for \$52,000. This is \$500 more than the previous high price.

BRITISH RECEIVE REINFORCEMENTS

Claim That They Are to Keep
French in Order.

RUSSIANS WANT AN APOLOGY

Because British Hauled Down Their Flag—
British Refuse—Russian and Jap-
anese Squadrons Headed for
Corean Coast.

PEKIN, March 20.—The British reinforcements, consisting of ninety marines which arrived at Tien Tsin last night from Taku forts to replace the Indian guards on the disputed land, are expected as due to fear lest any incident arising out of the Russo-British land question should cause the French troops, whose conduct has given much trouble, to precipitate a collision. The British commanders desire to have enough troops in Tien Tsin to preserve order in the streets.

BRITISH MUST APOLOGIZE.

LONDON, March 20.—General Wogack has refused to accept Count Von Waldersee's arbitration at Tien Tsin, says the Pekin correspondent of the Daily Mail, and demands that the British not only withdraw but apologize for removing the Russian flag. General Barrow refuses to do either and in so refusing has the support of the British government. British reinforcements are being sent.

NAVIES PREPARING FOR WAR.

SHANGHAI, March 20.—A dispatch to the China Gazette from Tokio, dated today, says that all the Russian warships in Japanese waters have sailed for Korea and that the Japanese squadron is mobilizing for an immediate departure to the Korean coast.

WALDERSEE POWERLESS.

TIENTSIN, March 20.—Gen. Lorne-Campbell, the English commander, and General Wogack, commanding the Russians, met Count Von Waldersee upon his arrival here. Learning that both had received instructions from their governments, Count Von Waldersee said that it was useless for him to give even an opinion regarding the matters at issue.

"It is the general feeling in Tien Tsin that the trouble is not likely to reach a point where blood will be shed. Both detachments on guard have orders to do nothing aggressive unless forced to do so by the other. Except the army and camp followers, the only Russians now residing here are the members of the consular staff, two clerks and two Jews, who are running stores and who left Russia in order to save their lives. These are now being offered inducements to move to the Russian concession.

The French gendarmes are on duty at the British concession to prevent the soldiers from trespassing and an Australian naval brigade is preventing the Sikhs from invading the French concession.

General Lorne-Campbell, upon hearing of the death of ex-President Harrison, ordered all the British flags to be flown at half mast.

BRITISH RE-INFORCEMENTS.

TIENTSIN, March 20.—A dust storm prevented Count Von Waldersee who arrived here yesterday from proceeding for Pekin until this morning.

Ninety British marines arrived here last night from the Taku forts to replace the Indian guards on the disputed land. The fusiliers are expected today.

A special train bearing re-inforcements of Australian troops left Pekin for Tien Tsin at 10 o'clock this morning. One French, an Italian and a German warship are outside the bar.

BRITISH MUST WITHDRAW.

NEW YORK, March 20.—A dispatch to the Herald from Tien Tsin says: Count Von Waldersee while here yesterday had long conversations with the Russian and English commanding generals. He orally renewed the propositions which had been made by telegraph and which the Russians had declined to entertain.

General Wogack declined to discuss the question of ownership until the British had withdrawn from the ground claimed by Russia and occupied by his forces. General Campbell stated that under his instructions he could not withdraw from the position. The deadlock therefore continues.

together with the Australians are now guarding the settlement and preventing French soldiers from entering.

General Campbell has received the approval of his government in his view of the dispute with the Russian commander here and is holding his ground under orders from London.

Count Von Waldersee's proposal which General Wogack declined to entertain was that the disputed territory be turned over to a neutral guard, the Russians and British simultaneously withdrawing, pending legal investigation of the question involved.

British officers maintain that if, as rumored, Russian troops are being hurried to Tien Tsin from Port Arthur, the British government will regard their arrival as a hostile movement on the part of Russia.

General Wogack has made the following statement of the Russian position for the Herald:

"The question over which we unhappily are at odds is not whether the disputed ground belongs to us or to the Chinese government or to the railway company but whether the English will make good their trespass.

"At the time the British attempted to take possession the ground was protected by British flags and a clearly delimited boundary of stone. These flags were overturned and thrown away by a working party of Bengal pioneers and coolies who went on with their work until driven off by our guards.

"Before we can discuss the question of ownership the British, who are still to some extent on our ground, must withdraw. Once the British have withdrawn I am sure the Russian imperial government will ignore all previous regrettable violence and listen in a most friendly spirit to whatever the British government may have to say regarding the definite possession of the disputed territory. No sane person can for an instant doubt that had the English required permission to build a switch or sidetrack on our ground it would have been immediately granted.

"Unfortunately, however, they sought their ends by forcible means. The British troops must be withdrawn from Russian territory. There can be no other settlement."

COAL COMBINE PROJECTED.

Would Include All Companies of Illinois
and Have Capital of \$75,000,000.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 20.—A movement is said to be on foot among the leading coal operators of Illinois to consolidate the coal producing interests of the state into one company. The object of the enterprise is to reduce the expenses of production and to fortify the operators against the miners' organization.

The project contemplates the formation of a single company with a capital of \$75,000,000, controlling more than 9000 miners throughout the state. The total product of these mines last year was 40,000,000 tons.

TOWN NEARLY DESTROYED.

Fire Believed to Have Been Started by
Negroes in Revenge.

UNION CITY, Tenn., March 20.—Tip-topville, the county seat of Lake county, was nearly destroyed by fire last night, only four business houses escaping. Loss \$75,000. The fire is supposed to have been started by negroes out of revenge for the lynching of Ike Fitzgerald in Colorado Saturday.

DUTY ON LUMBER.

Canadians Wish to Impose One Equivalent
to That of the United States.

OTTAWA, Ont., March 20.—In the house of commons today, W. H. Bennett proposed a resolution to make the duty on lumber imported into Canada the same as the United States duty on Canadian lumber, which is very much higher. The representatives of Manitoba and Northwest Territory opposed the import duty while the British Columbia members supported it. The resolution will be continued tomorrow.

THROGS WAITED FOR CARENGIE

Beggars of All Classes at South-
ampton Docks.

ANOTHER MAGNIFICENT GIFT

Philadelphia Is to Have \$5,000,000 With
Which to Build Libraries on the
Terms on Which He Made
Offer to New York.

SOUTHAMPTON, March 21.—The St. Louis arrived at 2 o'clock this morning (Thursday). Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie had given strict orders that they should not be awakened until 6 o'clock. The dock was filled with correspondents from all parts of the country.

MANY BEGGARS WAITING.

SOUTHAMPTON, March 20.—The arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Carnegie, who sailed from New York on the American line steamer St. Louis, March 13, is awaited by delegations from various institutions who want checks. Those include representatives of Woolston, Reading and other cities seeking libraries and the agents of various institutions desiring aid. The office of the steamship company and the American consulate were crowded with people inquiring when the steamer will arrive.

The local manager of the American line, who has 160 letters and telegrams from all parts of the kingdom for the philanthropist, says that the envelopes indicate that they are from all sorts and conditions of people, from university presidents to mendicants.

LIBRARIES FOR PHILADELPHIA.

NEW YORK, March 20.—The World will say tomorrow:
Another magnificent gift from Andrew Carnegie will be announced within a few days. It became known yesterday that Carnegie had offered \$5,000,000 to another American city, also it is said for the purpose of building libraries. Philadelphia will, it is understood, be the next recipient of the iron master's bounty. It is said that Carnegie has offered to build libraries aggregating \$5,000,000 in value on conditions similar to those which accompany the offer to New York.

BLIZZARD AT ST. PAUL.

One of the Worst the City Has Known
for Years.

ST. PAUL, March 20.—The fierce storm of sleet, snow and wind which has raged in St. Paul since yesterday morning is one of the worst this city has experienced in years. The outlook for warmer and clear weather tomorrow is favorable.

WORST BLIZZARD FOR YEARS.

CUMBERLAND, Wis., March 20.—The severe blizzard which has prevailed throughout western Wisconsin for the past thirty-six hours is the worst seen for years.

MEAT FOR PHILIPPINES.

CHICAGO, March 20.—Contracts for furnishing the United States army with nearly a million pounds of meat for use in the Philippines were awarded to Chicago packers today.

METHODIST EDITOR DEAD.

CHICAGO, March 20.—Rev. Dr. Edwards, editor of the Northwestern Christian Advocate and widely known in Methodist Episcopal church circles, died tonight, aged 65 years.

... ASK FOR ...

"Charles Carroll" - 10c
"General Good" - 5c

*** CIGARS ***

TWO UNEQUALLED SMOKES

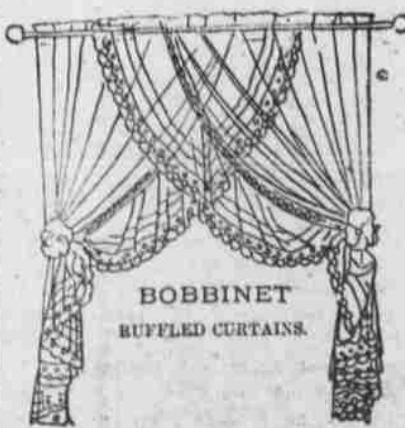
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Golden Oak and Birds' Eye
Maple.....



BOBBINET
RUFFLED CURTAINS.

CHAS. HEILBORN & SON