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NO 182

KRUGER TO SALISBURY

Gives Assurance That Boers Will Fight to Bitter End.

WAR BEGUN FOR DEFENSE ONLY

Is Confident That God Will Not Forsake Them, But Accomplish Freedom to Them and Their Descendants.

LONDON, March 13.—A parliamentary paper containing the telegrams sent to the British government by the Presidents of the South African Republics, and Great Britain's reply thereto was issued today. The first telegram sent by the two Presidents to the Marquis of Salisbury was as follows:

"BLOEMFONTEIN, March 5.—The blood and tears of the thousands who have suffered by this war, and the prospect of all the moral and economic ruin wherewith South Africa is now threatened, make it necessary for both belligerents to ask themselves dispassionately and in sight of God, for what they are fighting; whether the aim of each justifies all this appalling misery and devastation; what is the object?"

"And, in view of the assertions of various British statesmen to the effect that this war was begun and is being carried on with the set purpose of undermining Her Majesty's authority in South Africa, and of setting up one government over all South Africa, independent of Her Majesty's government, we consider it our duty to solemnly declare that this war was undertaken solely as a defensive measure to maintain the threatened independence of the South African Republics, and is only continued in order to secure and maintain the incontestable independence of both Republics as sovereign international states, and to obtain the assurance that those of Her Majesty's subjects who have taken part with us in this way shall suffer no harm whatever in person or property."

"On these conditions, but on these conditions alone, are we now as in the past, desirous of seeing peace re-established in South Africa, while, if Her Majesty's subject's government is determined to destroy the independence of the Republics there is nothing left to us and to our people but to press on to the end in the course already begun. In spite of the overwhelming pre-eminence of the British Empire, we are confident that God, who lightened the unextinguishable fire of freedom in the hearts of ourselves, and of our belief that he will accomplish his work in the United States and in our descendants."

"We hesitated to make this declaration earlier to Your Excellency, as we feared that as long as the advantage was always on our side and as long as our forces held defensive positions far within Her Majesty's colonies, such a declaration might hurt the feeling and honor of the British people. But now that the prestige of the British Empire may be considered to be restored by the capture of one of our forces by Her Majesty's troops, and that we have thereby been forced to evacuate other positions which our forces had occupied, the difficulty is over, and we can no longer hesitate to clearly inform your government and people in the sight of the whole civilized world why we are fighting, and on what conditions we are ready to restore peace."

Insurgents Fight Hard.
ON BOARD THE STEAMER VENUS, Legaspi, Luzon, Jan. 23.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—Five companies of the Forty-seventh Volunteer Infantry, aided by the gunboat Nashville, today fought their way into the native towns of Legaspi and Albay. We had five men slightly wounded. Forty-five dead Filipinos had been counted by nightfall, and we are caring for a dozen of their wounded. Shells

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from the Nashville ignited two warehouses filled with baled hemp. These fires could not be put out, and 8000 bales, with a total valuation of \$120,000 were destroyed by nightfall.

IN COMMAND OF FREE STATE CAPITAL

After Losing Nearly 400 Men "Little Bobs" Hurrying Forward.

LONDON, March 13.—Lord Roberts telegraphs from Venters Vlei under date of March 12, 9:30 p. m., as follows: "I directed General French if there were time before dark, to seize the railway station at Bloemfontein, and thus secure the rolling stock. At midnight I received a report from him that after considerable opposition he had been able to occupy two hills close to the railway station, which commanded Bloemfontein."

"A brother of President Steyn has been made a prisoner. "The telegraph line leading northward has been cut, and the railway broken up."

"I am now starting with the Third Cavalry Brigade, which I called up from the Seventh Division, near Petrusburg yesterday, and the mounted infantry, to reinforce the cavalry division. The rest of the force will follow as quickly as possible."

"Colonel Humphrey has died of his wounds. Lieutenant Pratt, of the Essex Regiment, was wounded severely. The wounds are as a rule more serious than usual, owing to the expanding bullets which are freely used by the Boers. There are 321 men wounded. About 60 or 70 men were killed or are missing."

Remarkable Cures of Rheumatism.

From the Vindicator, Rutherfordton, N. C.

The editor of the Vindicator has had occasion to test the efficacy of Chamberlain's Pain Balm twice with the most remarkable results in each case. First, with rheumatism in the shoulder from which he suffered excruciating pain for ten days, which was relieved with two applications of Pain Balm, rubbing the parts afflicted and realizing instant benefit and entire relief in a very short time. Second, in rheumatism in thigh joint, almost prostrating him with severe pain, which was relieved by two applications, rubbing with the liniment on retiring at night, and getting up free from pain. For sale by Blakeley & Houghton.

Germany's Position

BERLIN, March 13.—It is semi-officially announced that when the Orange Free State and the Transvaal addressed to a number of the larger and smaller states a request for friendly mediation, the German government replied that it would willingly participate, provided the essential conditions of such mediation were present, namely, the certainty that both belligerents desired it."

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Rev. W. E. Sitzer, W. Canton, N. Y., writes, "I had dyspepsia over twenty years, and tried doctors and medicines without benefit. I was persuaded to use Kodol Dyspepsia Cure and it helped me from the start. I believe it to be a panacea for all forms of indigestion." It digests what you eat.

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ENGLAND FO-LITELY DECLINES

Will Not Accept the Proffer of United States' Kindly Intercession.

STATE WHAT THEY WILL DO

Germany, France and Russia Are All Anxious to See the War Ended—Cannot Take the Initiative.

LONDON, March 12.—The United States government, at the request of President Kruger and President Steyn, has offered to the British government its services as mediator, with the view of bringing about peace in South Africa. Lord Salisbury has not yet replied, but a representative from the Associated Press learns that there is little doubt he will decline the United States good offices. He will do so, however, in terms as cordial and polite as those in which the offer was couched.

Salisbury's Reply.

LONDON, March 13.—United States Charge d'Affaires, Henry White, saw Lord Salisbury at the Foreign Office this evening and received the formal reply from the British government, declining the good offices of the United States in regard to peace. It is understood the reasons of the Premier were identical with those already cabled to the Associated Press. The interview between White and Salisbury was very brief, the Premier confining himself to a courteous verbal declination.

Salisbury to Kruger.

LONDON, March 13.—In the House of Lords today, the Premier, Lord Salisbury, read the British government's reply to Presidents Steyn and Kruger. The concluding sentence is as follows: "Her Majesty's government can only answer your Honor's telegram by saying it is not prepared to assent to the independence of either the South African Republic or that of the Orange Free State."

Policy of France.

PARIS, March 13.—A representative of the Associated Press has secured from a responsible mouthpiece of the French government the following exposition of France's attitude in the matter of intervention in the Anglo-Transvaal War, which, it is said, has been solicited by President Kruger. The official in question said:

"We believe it is true the Transvaal has sent a request to the powers for their intervention, though up to this morning Kruger's message has not been announced. As far as France is concerned, she certainly will not take the initiative in offering England mediation, neither will Russia, for the two are naturally working together in this matter. We feel that in the present excited state of public feeling in England especially as regards ourselves, any step taken by the French government would defeat its own object and instead of opening a way to honorable peace would act as oil on the flames and probably create fresh complications."

"We consider that the overtures for mediation can best emanate from some power whose cordial relations with England prevents such a suggestion being construed as an unfriendly act. The Emperor of Germany, for instance, might take the initiative, or President McKinley, without fear of creating the friction which stands in the way of any such action on our part and, after this is done, reliance can be placed on the unqualified support of France and Russia, who only desire to see the end of the bloodshed and are eager to lend their good offices in bringing about this result."

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