

FREE STATE'S SEAT OF GOVERNMENT

Bloemfontein Is Expected to Be Occupied By Roberts Today.

RELIEF COLUMNS NEAR MAFEKING

Garrison Cannot Hold Out Much Longer —All is Quiet in Natal—Cronje and All Paardeberg Prisoners Will Sail for St. Helena on March 15.

PRETORIA, March 13.—A dispatch from Bloemfontein says that in view of the military situation, the seat of government may be removed to Kroonstad.

LOBATSI, March 8.—Colonel Plumer's force reached here March 6. It is believed only a single bridge southward has been destroyed, and that otherwise the railroad is intact within five miles of Mafeking. Plumer has already dispersed several Boer police posts in the neighborhood, and is actively pushing his advance southward.

CAPE TOWN, March 14.—Colonel Plumer is now within forty miles of Mafeking.

LONDON, March 14, p. m.—A few hours may bring important dispatches from Lord Roberts. No word has come from Bloemfontein today, although sharp fighting is believed to have occurred since the Commander-in-Chief was last heard from. London confidently expects the occupation of the Orange Free State capital will occur today, as previously forecasted.

In the meantime, attention turns to Mafeking. The hamlet of the plains can scarcely hold out much longer. The news of Colonel Plumer's approach has given substance to the rumors of its relief, but those best informed are inclined to think the relief is more likely to become accomplished by Colonel Peekham's column from Kimberley. Private advices have set forth that Colonel Plumer has almost given up hope of accomplishing anything more than harassing the Boers, though since these were written, it is stated that the diminished number of the investing force may have rendered Plumer's task more feasible.

Judging from the lack of news everything is quiet in Natal, while from Hersebel comes the statement that the total collapse of the insurgent colonists is imminent.

General Cronje, according to a Cape Town special, sails for St. Helena on March 15, accompanied by all the Paardeberg prisoners.

Cecil Rhodes is suffering from catarrh of the stomach, and is unable to sail for England.

Natal dispatches recount that the greatest satisfaction is felt there at Lord Salisbury's reply to the Boer President's peace overture. A dispatch from Pietermaritzburg, published in the second edition of the Times, says:

"The reply, especially the last paragraph, relating to independence, has been received in Natal with a feeling of great relief, and is dispelling all doubts."

A private dispatch from Johannesburg has been received in London, dated Saturday, March 10, contradicting the reports that the mines are flooded and all the machinery broken, and asserting that all is well.

Sheepmen Losing Courage.

NORTH YAKIMA, March 13.—Although the sheepgrowers of Central Washington have not given up the fight for an open forest reserve, it is admitted that they are becoming much discouraged, and are almost without hope of success. A letter received by the secretary of the Woolgrowers' Association from Congressman Jones stated that Mr. Jones had repeatedly called upon the Secretary of the Interior to discuss the matter of opening the reserve this year, but had not yet been able to go over the entire subject with him. At his last visit he

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found the Secretary inclined to be impatient and unwilling to discuss the matter.

Prominent sheepmen here have been talking the subject over today, and have wired Senator Foster to learn if in his opinion it would be advisable to send one of their number to Washington to present the case to the Secretary. Several large flockowners have already made arrangements to move to Montana, where free ranges may yet be had. A representative of the Great Northern was in town Saturday, and it is said he offered free transportation from Spokane to sheepmen who desired to go to Montana to look up new ranges. After spending time a number of them will avail themselves of the offer. If the reserve is opened at all, it must be very soon, as the season is so far advanced that sheep should be on the ranges within a few days.

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 affected 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.

Adopted by the House. WASHINGTON, March 13.—The last legislative step in the enactment of the financial bill was taken by the House of Representatives today when the conference report on the bill was adopted by a vote of yeas, 166; nays, 120; present

and not voting, 10. The Senate had already adopted the conference report, so that it only remains for the President to affix his signature to the measure to make it a law. Representative Overstreet, the author of the bill, will take it to the White House tomorrow, and the signature is likely to be affixed soon thereafter.

When the session opened, a number of minor bills were passed. Grow (Rep. Pa.), in a personal statement, denied that he had ever said in a newspaper interview that the Puerto Rican bill "was an outrage and robbery." Then, under the order previously made, the House proceeded to consideration of the conference report upon the financial bill.

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Sick Headache absolutely and permanently cured by using Moki Tea. A pleasant herb drink. Cures constipation and indigestion, makes you eat, sleep, work and happy. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back. 25 cts. and 50 cts. Blakeley & Houghton Druggists.

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HAY-PAUNCEFOTE TREATY IN CONGRESS

Both Democrats and Republicans Will Favor it as Amended—Other Countries Oppose.

CHICAGO, March 13.—A special to the Chicago Record from Washington says: There is no doubt that the senate will ratify the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, revoking that part of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty which affects the Nicaragua canal with the amendment adopted today by the committee on foreign relations, which provides for the insertion of the following:

"It is agreed, however, that none of the immediately foregoing conditions and stipulations in sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this act shall apply to measures which the United States may find it necessary to take for securing by its own forces the defenses of the United States and the maintenance of public order."

With the exception of Senator Morgan, the amendment was supported by all the Republicans and Democrats on the committee, and Senator Jones of Arkansas says it is acceptable to the Democratic side of the senate.

The position of the European governments upon the amendment will not be known until the foreign officers have considered its scope. Several of the ambassadors have conferred together on the subject but as they had not received instructions in reply to their cables they were not authorized to speak definitely as to the attitude of their governments. It would not be surprising, however, should some opposition develop.

As soon as the treaty is ratified the bill authorizing the construction of a canal across Nicaragua will be pushed to a vote in both houses, and conditions are favorable for its passage.

Catarrh Cannot be Cured with local applications, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years, and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Props., Toledo O. Sold by druggists, price 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best. 12

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EMPIRE, or English Box Coat—in a very beautiful shade of light brown Broadcloth—strapped and stitched seams—velvet collar, satin lining—

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EATON JACKET—of light tan Venetian Cloth; made double-breasted, dip front, pearl buttons, satin reverses and lining—

\$10.00



LIGHT TAN WHIPCORD Coat Cloth Jacket—fly-front, farmer satin lining to match; exceptional value at

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VENETIAN CLOTH JACKET, in a very pretty shade of tan; made fly-front, with velvet collar to match, and lined with near-silk in a beautiful shade of violet.

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TAN COVERT, FLY-FRONT JACKET, beautifully finished with three rows stitching at all seams and around edge—good quality of satin lining to match. Special

\$10.00



BLACK BROADCLOTH JACKET, fly-front, lined with good quality black satin; value \$10.

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