

## ROBERTS TO ENTER PRETORIA

Gatacre's, Clement's and Brabant's Forces Will Occupy Bloemfontein.

## CASUALTIES AT DRIEFONTEIN

Remnants of Free State Army May Be Caught Before They Get Around Bloemfontein to Join Joubert's Command.

LONDON, March 16.—Lord Roberts' success in handling the civil problems at Bloemfontein and the manifest equanimity with which residents of the capital of the Orange Free State accept British occupation momentarily replaces the interest in the military situation. It is believed here that Roberts will soon push on to Pretoria, but Great Britain is quite content to listen for a few days to the acclamations of the people of Bloemfontein and permit the troops to enjoy a few days' rest before expecting further success.

Roberts made a quaint speech to the guards at Bloemfontein today, when in his first congratulatory words he expressed pride in their splendid march of thirty-eight miles in twenty-eight hours, and gave ample assurance of his ultimate design.

"Through a small mistake," said Roberts, "I have not been able to march into Bloemfontein at the head of the brigade, as I intended. I promise you, however, that I will lead you into Pretoria."

General Gatacre is holding Bethuel, and the whole line of railroad south of Bloemfontein is now in the hands of the British, and General Brabant's column having crossed Orange River, after a forced march to Aliwal North on Sunday, and General Clement's column being across at Valzyl, the three columns will form an army of 12,000 to 15,000, which is expected to replace the forces of Roberts at Bloemfontein, as he pushes northward. Just where the Boers will attempt to oppose that march is an important question, but it cannot be easily answered until General Joubert is more definitely located.

Further news has reached the outside world from Mafeking, dated Friday, March 9, showing that though the garrison was in hard straits, they were buoyed up by the knowledge that their plucky fight was appreciated at home.

### Roberts Is Not Idle.

NEW YORK, March 16.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: General Roberts is not allowing the grass to grow under his feet. He put three trains in motion, equipping them with engine drivers and firemen from from his own troops, and sent General Pole-Carew, with 2000 guardsmen and a small body of mounted infantry, southward. He reported in a midnight bulletin that Pole Carew had reached Bethany during the afternoon without opposition, and that the force was expecting to join Generals Gatacre and Clements. Gatacre had crossed the Orange River in the morning and occupied Bethulie. General Clement's advance has probably taken place simultaneously. It is reported that the Dutch rear guards are retreating from the river, and it is possible that they may be caught between the columns which are advancing toward Springfontein.

General Roberts has allowed three divisions to bait at Bloemfontein, but he is not idle himself. He has created the impression that the Free State government has surrendered its capital and that a military government has been substituted for it. President Steyn, since his arrival in Kroonstadt, is issuing proclamations and striving to rally his troops in defense of the republic, but unless all signs fail, his forces are rapidly disappearing from the field.

It is evident from the press dispatches that General Roberts' first work will be the opening of the railway southward to

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the Orange River and the abandonment of the convoy system of supplies from Kimberley. The entire district south of Bloemfontein can be cleared of the enemy in the course of a few days and railway traffic restored. Dispatches from General Gatacre's headquarters state that his patrols are in touch with General Clement's lines westward and with Brabant's eastward.

Warren's forces are not needed on Orange River, and have returned to upper Natal. Military men do not expect a vigorous renewal of operations by either General Roberts or General Buller during the next week. French's cavalry with Tucker's division may advance slowly northward in the direction of Winburg and Kroonstadt, but it is not likely that there will be serious fighting until General Roberts is ready to cross the Vaal River and advance toward Johannesburg and Pretoria.

The only direction in which veteran officers here expect to witness immediate activity is towards Mafeking.

### Steyn in Disfavor.

LONDON, March 16.—The Times publishes the following from Bloemfontein, dated Tuesday: Contempt for the flight of the Free Staters is universal, many people asserting that President Steyn would have been shot if his intention to flee had been known. More harm has been done to the Dutch cause by the surrender than is conceivable, and despite the statements of the brother of Steyn, it is doubtful that there will be any more resistance south of the Vaal.

### British Casualties.

LONDON, March 16.—It was officially announced today that British casualties at Driefontein on March 10 were sixty-two men killed and 321 wounded, including one Canadian wounded.

### Crossed Orange River.

CAPE TOWN, March 16.—When the British forced a passage of the Orange River, they surprised the Boer forces.

The Britons occupied a position on the north side of the river with little opposition.

### Boer Threats.

PARIS, March 16.—The possibility of the Boers destroying the mines is causing some anxiety among French financiers, who have one-third of the shares. The Gaulois devotes an article to the subject today, and calls upon the financiers of Europe to furnish the Boers with the means of resisting the British invasion.

### Cecil Rhodes' Opinion.

CAPE TOWN, March 15.—In an interview published in the Cape Argus, Mr. Cecil Rhodes is quoted as saying:

"I feel strongly that we cannot have peace in South Africa so long as we have in the Republic a rallying ground for disloyalty and disaffection. I go further. I do not think we can safely federate till we have had some years of crown colony government. Personally I have done with the Bund."

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## ALLEN'S RESOLUTION DEFEATED

Sought to Extend Constitution to Puerto Rico—Vote Was 36 to 17 Against It—Quay Case to be Taken Up Shortly.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—At 10 o'clock this morning the senate convened to conclude, if possible, between that hour and noon, the formal reading of the Alaskan code bill. Only two or three senators were present during the earlier part of the session. Carter, who reported the bill, was in the chair, and Bate, of Tennessee, who kept close attention upon the reading of the measure, did not leave his seat until the last word of the bill was pronounced. The reading was concluded at noon.

Hoar renewed his request of yesterday that a date be fixed for taking up the Quay case. He asked that the time be two weeks from next Tuesday. Gallinger, who had some hot words with Penrose yesterday, said he was astounded at the charge that those who were opposed to Quay were employing parliamentary tactics to obstruct vote on the case. The order proposed by Hoar was agreed to by unanimous consent.

After morning business had been disposed of, the senate took up the Puerto Rico appropriation bill. Amendments of the senate committee, limiting the appropriation to revenues collected prior to January 1st, last, having been agreed to yesterday, a vote was taken on Allen's amendment, declaring the Constitution extended over the islands. The amendment was laid on the table by a vote of 36 to 17. Jones withdrew the amendment he offered yesterday, and in its place offered an amendment proposing 're-trade between the United States and Puerto Rico.

### Food for Puerto Ricans.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—Five hundred tons of rice, codfish and bacon were shipped on a transport to Puerto Rico today by the war department to relieve the suffering. The shipment is made in response to an appeal some time ago from General George Davis, military governor of Puerto Rico, to Acting Secretary of State Meikeljohn for aid for starving Puerto Ricans.

General Davis' letter depicts an awful situation on the island. He explained that he intended to discontinue the distribution of food the first of this month, but owing to the distress he asked for this shipment. He also says that it is imperative that a further shipment of 500 tons of the same articles be made on the next transport following this shipment.

### Rejoicing at Cape Colony.

CAPE COLONY, March 16.—There was great rejoicing throughout the colony upon the receipt of the news that Bloemfontein had been occupied by the British. The first intimation of the news at Port Elizabeth was the firing of 21 guns at 11 o'clock in the evening. The inhabitants hastened to the streets and carried the mayor on their shoulders to the Town Hall, where a demonstration was held. Today will be observed as a general holiday.

There is great rejoicing at Bloemfontein, whose women and children have been shut off for months. Great complaint is made of the harsh treatment by the Boers during the occupation. Rebels are coming in daily with their arms from the south. A number of other rebel leaders have been arrested.

### No Right to Ugliness.

The woman who is lovely in face, form and temper will always have friends, but one who would be attractive must keep her health. If she is weak, sickly and all run down, she will be nervous and irritable. If she has constipation or kidney trouble, her impure blood will cause pimples, blotches, skin eruptions and a wretched complexion. Electric Bitters is the best medicine in the world to regulate stomach, liver and kidneys and to purify the blood. It gives strong nerves, bright eyes, smooth, velvety skin, rich complexion. It will make a good-looking, charming woman of a run-down invalid. Only 50 cents at Blakeley & Houghton's drugstore.

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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 Covert Cloth Jacket—fly-front, former satin lining to match; exceptional value at \$5.00



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. \$6.00



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. \$8.50

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