

# The Sartiam News

SCIO.....OREGON

## THE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Cited From the Telegraph Columns.

British have occupied Colomes. Resolutions aimed at the sugar trust were introduced in the house. At Detroit, Mich., Tom Sharkey knocked out Jim Jefforiss in the second round.

Trains bearing provisions, fuel and passengers are now to be started for Kimberley. Queen Victoria has appealed to retired members of the army to enlist in some defense.

Large bands of Yaquis are marching on Guaymas, Mex., and will attempt to capture the town. John Penella, of Astoria, has sold the Clatsop Mill Company for \$20,000 for the loss of an arm.

A split in the Populist National Convention, being held at Lincoln, Neb., Two tickets will be put in the field. Charles E. Macraun, late consul at Pretoria, in the Transvaal, furnishes proof of his charges against the British censor.

Filipino guerrillas who attacked a squad of Americans on February 2, killing a corporal, are to be tried before a military commission on the charge of murder.

Ex-Secretary of War Alger and Captain Ellis are planning to operate their extensive lumbering interests on Puget Sound, and will erect a large saw mill at Fairhaven, Wash.

The steamer Coptic brought to a local San Francisco company 1,840 sacks of ore concentrate from the mines of Corea, and is the second similar consignment within a few months.

The war department has issued a statement that the receipts of public funds in the Philippine Islands, beginning August 15, 1898, and ending December 31, 1899, amount to \$6,696, 090.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art Treasurers, of New York, in their annual report, state the value of Turner's Grand Canal, Venice, bequeathed to the museum by Cornelius Vanderbilt, as \$100,000.

In Chicago, 500 men employed by the General Electric Railway Company, fought with employees of the Western Indiana Railroad Company for the possession of the Dearborn street crossing. A dozen men were injured.

Judge Seaman, in the United States district court at Chicago, issued an order denying the injunction prayed for by the Chicago Tribune against the Associated Press. This grew out of alleged infringements of copyright.

The U. S. battleship Kearsarge has been placed in commission. Senator Simon, of Oregon, introduced a bill appropriating \$250,000 to establish a mint at Portland.

Former Judge Wm. S. Vest, a prominent and wealthy citizen of Minneapolis, is dead in Los Angeles, aged 63 years.

Buller has surrounded the Boers at Colomes and compelled them to retire across the Tugela river. The British captured 100 prisoners.

It is said that Dr. Leyds had for his sole purpose in going to Germany, the establishment of a German protectorate over the Boer republic.

Voluntary requests for retirement from the navy have come in so rapidly since January 1, that forced retirements will not be necessary.

At Oakland, Cal., the largest cargo of lumber ever consigned to that port, is now being discharged. It consists of 1,200,000 feet of Oregon pine.

Dr. William Treacy, witness in the case of Senator Clark, of Montana, thought it a huge joke to offer a supreme court judge money for his honor.

Munir Bey, envoy of the sultan of Turkey at Paris, has presented President Loubet with the insignia and grand cordon of the Order of Nichimistan, the highest decoration in the Turkish empire.

Leaders in Polish national circles of Chicago say there is a secret National Polish League, which is extended throughout Europe and America, and that it has existed for 14 years for the purpose of freeing Poland by force of arms or any other method. They are hoping for war between England and the Czar.

Assistant Secretary Allen has been notified by the secretary of the treasury that the revenue marine service will be glad to participate in the war college exercises of the coming summer, and will detail several officers to attend. Secretary Root has not yet replied to the navy department's invitation for the army to take part in the course, but Assistant Secretary Allen understands military officers will be detailed.

Rear Admiral Bradford estimates the cost of the Pacific cable at \$10,000,000. Dreyfus is still in Southern France, where his health shows continued improvement.

Elk Jimerson, full-blooded Indian treasurer of the Seneca nation, is \$1,000 short in his accounts. During last year 44,000 immigrants settled in Canada. The number from the United States is 11,000, or about 2,000 more than last year.

Imperial German regulations preventing practice of medicine by women have been rescinded. You can take out spots from your wash goods by rubbing them with the yolk of eggs before washing.

William Kerr, of Providence, R. I., is still pursuing his trade of watchmaker after 36 years' work at that business. He is 82 years old. In the paper mill owned by Gov. Crane, at Dalton, Massachusetts, workmen who belong to old to labor are retained on their regular salary as long as they live.

### LATER NEWS.

Cronje has been reinforced and is well entrenched. A boiler in the Pullman Lumber Company's sawmill, at Pullman, Ark., exploded, killing six men.

Colonel W. S. King, ex-congressman and a national character for the past 40 years, died at Minneapolis.

Northern Ohio is in the throes of a severe blizzard. Trains on the trunk lines, especially west-bound, were delayed.

Desperate engagement between the British and Boers north of the Tugela resulted in the English being twice repulsed.

The German steamer Admiral has arrived at Lunenburg with 110 passengers, mostly Germans, who will join the Boer forces.

The Japanese minister to the United States, Jutaro Komura, has been notified by cable from Japan of his appointment as minister to Russia.

A young dentist of New York City shot the wife of the man who befriended him and then committed suicide. Jealousy was the cause of the crime.

The Plattville powder mills, Plattville, Wis., were wrecked by an explosion, killing three men and badly injuring one. Several buildings were destroyed.

A steamer believed to be the Californian of the Allan line, is ashore off Fort Williams, Portland, (Me.) harbor. She was heavily laden with grain, bound for Liverpool.

In Chicago, 600 machinists employed by Frazer & Chalmers and Croley & Co., are on a strike, on account of the alleged refusal of their employers to recognize the union.

Four of the five members of the new Philippine commission have been selected. They are: Judge Taft, of Ohio; Luke T. Wright, of Tennessee; H. C. Ide, of Vermont; and Dean Worcester, of Michigan.

The plague in India continues virulent. There were 583 victims in Bombay city during the week ending February 16. With 61,000,000 people affected by the famine and only about 4,000,000 in receipt of relief, the country is in a bad plight.

A preacher of New Britain, Conn., whose love for preaching has entirely overcome his desire for ordinary labor, was given the alternative of obtaining a position by which he could support his family or go to jail to continue his religious studies. He had spent his time expounding his doctrines on street corners, and since October had provided nothing for his family.

Leader J. McCormick, of McCormick harvesters fame, is dead. The Boers are falling back and concentrating for the defense of the Transvaal.

Rev. James Smart, president of Perdue University, LaFayette, Ind., is dead. The Nez Perce Indians will soon get nearly \$200,000 from the government.

Pacific Coast Steamship Company's stevedores at Vancouver, B. C., are on a strike. All business at Mafeking is now conducted in "bombproof" underground chambers.

Operations in the Philippines are drawing to a close and police will replace soldiers. Contract has been let for the erection of a new oil and guano factory near Astoria, Oregon.

The Southern Pacific Railroad Company has established a relief department for its employees. The Fair estate has failed to break down Mrs. Craven's testimony relative to her marriage with the senator.

Admiral Dewey says that if the Nicaragua canal is to be a neutral pathway, fortifications are unnecessary. Women's rights have made such progress in Chile that already two-thirds of the public school teachers are women.

Leslie E. Keeley, inventor of the Keeley cure for the liquor habit, died at his home in Los Angeles, Cal., of heart disease. The sultan will pay for the losses of Americans in Turkey during the Armenian troubles. The sum involved is about \$100,000.

General Hector McDonald, commanding the Highland brigade and leading in the pursuit of Cronje's forces, is severely wounded. Representative Lentz, of Ohio, introduced in the house a bill to provide for the public distribution of a United States map to all schools in the United States.

Upon representations of the Spanish government to the effect that some of the islands south of the Philippine archipelago, which had been taken possession of by the United States gunboats, were the property of Spain, the authorities of the state department have examined the charts and concluded to direct the withdrawal of our claims to the islands of Ceygayan, San and Sabutu, both of which lie within the boundary lines laid down by the treaty of Paris.

The total wealth of American colleges and universities is \$250,000,000. A geological survey expert has found much coal in the Philippines, but no precious metals.

In St. Joseph, Mo., there is offered a bounty of \$600 for every highwayman that is killed. The German foreign office says the change in Chinese emperors is of no importance to Europe and the powers will not act.

Mrs. William Ewart Gladstone attained her eighty-eighth birthday recently, and the bells of Harwarfen church were rung in honor of the occasion. President Loubet of France declares that when his term of office ends he will not seek the office again, but will retire to his old home farm, as he is tired of politics.

Robert Fitzsimmons now proclaims that he was drugged when he was whipped by James Jeffries for the championship of the world at Coney Island last June.

### NEXT NATIONAL CONVENTION

Democrats Will Meet at Kansas City, Mo.

SELECTED BY THE COMMITTEE

Arguments of the Great Cities—Bryan's Name Received With Cheers—The Chicago Platform.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The next Democratic national convention will be held at Kansas City, July 4. This was the decision of the Democratic national committee, which met at the Hotel Raleigh today to fix the time and place of holding the convention. Milwaukee was the only city which competed for the honor of entertaining the convention, and the poor showing she made when the vote was taken, the result being Kansas City 40, Milwaukee 29, and Chicago 31.

The claims of the rival cities as to hotel accommodations and railroad and telegraphic facilities were presented in open session by representatives of each city, and subsequently in the executive session. Governor W. J. Stone, on behalf of Kansas City, and National Committeeman E. C. Wall, on behalf of Milwaukee, explained the financial inducements which the cities they represented were willing to make. Each city offered to contribute \$25,000, but in addition Kansas City was willing to furnish hotel accommodations for the members of the committee, and the hall, with decorations and music, free of expense to the committee.

It seemed to be taken for granted by at least two speakers that Bryan would be nominated, and that the Chicago platform in substance would be reaffirmed. Opposition to trusts, expansion and imperialism, together with every mention of Bryan and the Chicago platform, aroused enthusiasm, but during the open session of the committee there was no allusion to the issue of free silver.

Three dates for holding the convention were proposed—May 9, by Mr. Townsend, of Oregon; June 14, by Senator Tillman, of South Carolina; and July 4, by Mr. Metcalf, of West Virginia. A speech by ex-governor Sherman on holding to precedent and naming a date later than that for the convention of the party in power had considerable influence in causing Independence Day to be chosen.

After the committee had selected the "Great City of the West," the Kansas City boomers held a justification meeting in their rooms at the Raleigh. Ex-governor Stone addressed the gathering, predicting that those who attended the convention would depart with praises upon their lips for the hospitality they had received and that the nominee of the convention would be victor at the polls in November.

THE INSULAR TARIFF.

Continuation of the Puerto Rico Debate in the House.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The debate on the Puerto Rican tariff bill brought out several notable speeches in the house today, including one by Representative Greenman, of Ohio, who answered a number of questions as to the attitude of the president, another by Representative McCall, of Massachusetts, the Republican member of the ways and means committee, who dissented from the majority report, and one by Representative Mooley, another Massachusetts Republican, who sharply criticized the position of his colleagues. McCall, of New York, and Bantley, of Georgia, also spoke against the bill, and Parker, of New Jersey, in support of it. The debate was continued at the night session.

In accordance with a tacit agreement with the senators who were unable, on account of the meeting of the Democratic national committee, to attend today's session, Penrose, of Pennsylvania, refrained from calling up the Quoy case as he had yesterday announced he would do. When he announced, however, his intention to call it up tomorrow, a brief parliamentary equable ensued as to the rights by which the case would come before the senate. No conclusion was reached, the questions involved being postponed for consideration until tomorrow.

Sublime by Shooting.

San Francisco, Feb. 24.—Edward Probert, formerly manager of the Richmond Consolidated mine, at Eureka, Nev., committed suicide today by shooting himself in the head. He has been ailing for some time, and two years ago suffered a stroke of paralysis. Deceased was a native of Wales, aged 76 years. He owned valuable property in San Francisco, Colusa and Tehama counties, in this state.

Indemnity Will Be Demanded.

Washington, Feb. 24.—After investigation of the facts connected with the killing of the young American, Pearce, in Honduras, about a year ago, the state department has come to the conclusion that the case is one warranting a formal request for indemnity from the Honduran government, and Minister Merry will be instructed accordingly.

Aguaicilda in Japan.

New York, Feb. 24.—A special from Hong Kong to the Evening World, says: "United States Consul Wildman has information that three members of the Filipino junta, Lubon, Ponce and Agoncillo, brother of the British envoy, recently left for Japan to meet Aguaicilda. This gives credence to the story that Aguaicilda escaped from the island of Luzon to Formosa, when hunted by General Lawton's expedition through the northern part of the island."

The Plague in Hawaii.

Honolulu, Feb. 17, via San Francisco, Feb. 24.—The black plague has broken out at both Kahului, on the island of Maui, and Hilo, on the island of Hawaii. The latest advice report seven deaths at Kahului, all Chinese, and one at Hilo, a Portuguese woman, the wife of A. G. Semo. Chinatown in Kahului, which had about 300 inhabitants, has been destroyed by fire. In Honolulu the health situation is better than at any time since the outbreak of the plague. Not a case has developed in the last 10 days.

Conference of Colleges.

Berkeley, Cal., Feb. 24.—Professor Leachner, director of the students' Observatory at the University of California, left here today to join President Wheeler in Chicago. They will represent California at the conference of the leading American universities to be held in Chicago on February 27, for the consideration of the conferring of higher degrees.

Asleep at His Post.

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 24.—A dispatch to the News from Batavia, says: "A dispatch has been received in Batavia stating that Ernest Kingdom, of Stafford, who enlisted in the Forthright volunteer infantry, had been found sleeping at his post, tried by court martial and sentenced to be shot. It is said that a number of British soldiers entered the camp while Kingdom was asleep and killed two or three American soldiers."

Confession of Guilt.

Chicago, Feb. 26.—A special to the Record from Guadalajara, Mex., says: "The 600 Yaqui prisoners, recently taken from the Yaqui country to Mazatlan, have left Colima for Guadalajara. They are guarded by three companies of government troops. The trip will be long and fatiguing, as the Sierra Madre mountains have to be crossed."

A strike of the machinists of Brookton, Mass., began to enforce a petition for a nine-hour day, instead of 10 hours, with the same pay.

### HIS LAST STAND.

Cronje's Only Hope Is in Reinforcements.

London, Feb. 24.—The Daily News' second edition says that General Cronje has surrendered.

His Last Stand.

London, Feb. 24.—General Cronje is seemingly making his last stand. He is dying hard, hemmed in by British infantry, and with shells from 60 guns falling into his camp. On the third day of the fight the Boer chief asked for an armistice to bury his dead. "Fight to a finish or surrender unconditionally," was Lord Kitchener's reply. General Cronje immediately sent back word that his request for a truce had been misunderstood, and that he fought to the death. The battle went on.

This was the situation of General Cronje Tuesday evening, as sketched in the scanty telegrams that have emerged from the semi-silence of South Africa. Officially, Lord Roberts wires that he has scattered the advance commandments of the reinforcements that were striving to reach General Cronje. It is regarded as singular that Lord Roberts, writing Wednesday, should not mention the appeal for an armistice on the previous day, and also that the war office should withhold good news, if it has any.

Without trying to reconcile even the scanty materials at hand, it seems plain that General Cronje is in a bad, and even a desperate situation, and that the British are pressing their advance.

While the attack on General Cronje proceeds, there is a race for concentration between the Boers and the British. The engagement with General Cronje's army of 8,000 entrenched men is likely to become an incident in a battle between the masses. The separate fractions of the Boer power are rapidly drawing together to attack Lord Roberts.

The British are facing the Boers on ground where the arms, tactics and training of the British are expected to give them the advantage.

General Buller, according to a dispatch from Chevalier, dated Wednesday, finds the Boers in position north of the Tugela largely reinforced. This seems strange.

The war office, for the first time, has given out an official compilation of the British losses. The total is 11,280 to February 17. This does not include, therefore, Lord Roberts' recent losses, nor the Witwatersrand prisoners. The British losses at Koodoe's Rand were 700.

CANADIAN BATTALION LOSSES.

Eighty-nine were killed, wounded, or missing.

New York, Feb. 24.—A special to the Tribune from Montreal says: "The news of the heavy losses of the Canadian battalion created a profound sensation throughout the Dominion. No details of the action have come to hand, except that it was fought by the Canadians on Sunday, while pursuing Cronje's army at a drift in the Modder river to the east of Jacobdal. Seven out of the eight companies were engaged and the Canadians lost in killed, wounded and missing 89 men, being about 10 per cent of the force engaged."

The losses are scattered over the whole regiment and number 20 killed and 50 wounded, the rest being missing or captured. No officers were killed, but two—Major Arnold, of Winnipeg, commanding a company, and Lieutenant Mason, of Toronto—were wounded, the former dangerously. Flags are flying at half-mast over the city.

The spirit in which the public is taking the news is shown in the action of J. A. Barry, a rich young merchant of the town. On his way to his office he learned from a bulletin board of the death of his younger brother, Cecil, and proceeded at once to the telegraph office, where he telegraphed the government, asking permission to go to South Africa at his own expense to take his brother's place in the regiment. The newspapers in their comments are saying that the blood thus shed will cement the union of Canada with the empire.

Tuberculosis Congress.

New York, Feb. 24.—The Congress of Tuberculosis at the Hotel St. Andrew, which is being held under the auspices of the Medical-Legal Society, opened today with a small attendance. The speakers in the morning were several papers on tuberculosis and the various methods of treating it were submitted, but were not read, as they had already been published in the Congress Bulletin. It was decided by unanimous vote to accept the paper prepared for the afternoon session as read, and to adjourn the further business of the congress sine die.

Ovation to Dewey.

Wheeling, W. Va., Feb. 24.—Wheeling's ovation to Admiral Dewey was enthusiastic, although rain had been falling almost continuously since yesterday, making it necessary to abandon the parade. The speaking and other exercises took place in a large hall. The sword inscribed for by the citizens of Wheeling was presented to Lieutenant Dewey by Admiral Dewey, and the orations incident to the dedication of the tablets at the scene of Fort Henry were delivered. Tonight Admiral Dewey was banqueted by the Sons of the Revolution.

Aden, Feb. 26.—Six cases of plague and one death have occurred here. Drastic measures have been taken to prevent the spread of the disease. Infected areas have been isolated.

Condemned Chissaman's Suicide.

Salt Lake, Feb. 25.—Low Seng, a Chinaman, recently convicted of murder at Birmingham City, and sentenced to be shot, committed suicide by hanging himself in his cell this morning.

Yaqui Prisoners.

Chicago, Feb. 26.—A special to the Record from Guadalajara, Mex., says: "The 600 Yaqui prisoners, recently taken from the Yaqui country to Mazatlan, have left Colima for Guadalajara. They are guarded by three companies of government troops. The trip will be long and fatiguing, as the Sierra Madre mountains have to be crossed."

A strike of the machinists of Brookton, Mass., began to enforce a petition for a nine-hour day, instead of 10 hours, with the same pay.

### QUAY CASE IN THE SENATE

Voted 34 to 28 to Consider the Resolution.

DANIEL OPENED THE DEBATE

Resumption of Discussion of the Hawaiian Bill—Foster Replies to Quay.

Washington, Feb. 26.—Today's session of the senate was unusually interesting in spite of the very beginning. In spite of vigorous and influential opposition, Penrose, of Pennsylvania, succeeded in getting the Quay case before the senate, and during the afternoon three notable speeches were delivered. After a sharp parliamentary squabble, Penrose moved that the resolution involving the seating of Quay be taken up for consideration. On an aye and no vote the motion prevailed, 34 to 28. The majority was so decisive as to cause some surprise. It is known that some senators who will vote, if the opportunity be offered, to seat Quay, today voted against the consideration of the case, while on the contrary others who voted for consideration probably will vote against seating him. The vote cannot, therefore, be regarded as a test of Quay's absolute strength in the senate.

Following the taking up of the resolution, Daniel, of Virginia, delivered a speech in which he vigorously supported Quay's right to seat. Vest, of Missouri, and Foraker, of Ohio, delivered notable speeches against the Hawaiian government bill. Both were constitutional arguments. Foraker's being a reply to that of Vest.

CRONJE IS UNBEATEN.

Prize for the Boer General for His Gallantry.

London, Feb. 26.—General Cronje is still unbeaten. No other construction is placed upon the three days' silence of Lord Roberts. Yet no one says how it is humanly possible, judging from the descriptions of his situation Wednesday, for him to resist so long. Great Britain does not withhold recognition for the valor of a losing fight against such odds.

The British cavalry patrols sent by Lord Methuen north of Kimberley discovered the Boers concentrating, whether for defense or offense is simply conjecture.

The Boers seem to be retiring from General Gatafer's front at Strykerfontein in order to reinforce the Free states.

Lady Smith had not been relieved when the latest news left Natal, two days ago. The Boers had then retired half way between Lady Smith and Colomo.

Methuen in Charge of Kimberley.

Kimberley, Feb. 26.—Lord Methuen arrived here Tuesday. He will act as administrator of Kimberley district, extending southward to Orange river. Colonel Kekewich will remain in command of the local forces. The issue of siege soup ceases today. There are 64 Boer prisoners here.

Casualties at Paarlburg.

London, Feb. 26.—An official report says 146 men killed at Paarlburg, Drift, February 18, including 63 Highlanders and 18 Canadians.

BAD PHILADELPHIA FIRE.

One Woman Killed and Several Others Seriously Injured.

Philadelphia, Feb. 25.—One woman was killed, several others were severely injured and property valued at \$500,000 was destroyed by fire which broke out tonight in the heart of the wholesale military district. The burned area covers nearly two acres. The woman killed was Clara Cohen, 26 years of age, a seamstress in the employ of Harris and Bernard Cohen. She met her death by jumping from the fifth floor of the building in which the fire started. Among the most seriously hurt was Clara Usher, who fell from the third floor of the same building.

The fire started in the third floor of 721 Arch street, occupied by Simon May, manufacturer of straw goods, and spread to the big six-story building adjoining on the east occupied by Howe, Dungan & Company, dealers in wholesale military goods. This structure was also soon entirely consumed. By this time the building on the west of the May building, occupied by head office of the Northern Life Assurance Company, Park & Furden, bartenders; Roach Box, and C. F. Turner, brokers; F. H. Butler, broker; Keene Furniture Company, the Grand Opera House, R. G. Dun & Co., and the Dominion Loan & Savings Company's place were in a blaze. All these buildings are in ruins.

Bonner's Stock Farm.

New York, Feb. 24.—The Bonner stock farm at Tarrytown, N. Y., is not to pass out of existence, despite the sale of all the trotters and pacers which belonged to the late Robert Bonner, except Mand S. David Bonner will manage the farm, whose blooded horses will be bred. The stallions Highland Baron and Baron Review have been bought from the stud with a number of Electioneer horses.

The Plague at Aden.

Aden, Feb. 26.—Six cases of plague and one death have occurred here. Drastic measures have been taken to prevent the spread of the disease. Infected areas have been isolated.

Caused by Gasoline Explosion.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 26.—The explosion of a gasoline stove in the basement of the Metropolitan hotel this afternoon was followed by a fire which burned that building and the Hewlett block, adjoining, causing a loss of about \$100,000. A number of guests in the Metropolitan hotel were lowered from their rooms by means of ropes.

The Oregon Delegation.

New Orleans, Feb. 26.—The Oregon delegation of editors, numbering 30, arrived here safely. They will go to Vicksburg tomorrow, returning Monday.

### LETTERS FROM BADEN-POWELL.

Commander at Mafeking Describes the Town's Long Siege.

London, Feb. 26.—Extracts from Colonel Baden-Powell's letters to his relatives are published in an illustrated weekly. He writes: "Here I sit in my bomb-proof bureau, writing these letters. Around me is a telephonic communication with each one of my outposts. At each of these outposts a telescope keeps constant watch on the Boer outposts and guns. As soon as it is seen which way their fire is about to be directed, the wire communications are set to work and a bell, with which each defensive quarter is provided, clangs in that part of town where the shell is about to fall, and all in the open go to the ground like rabbits. Generally speaking, most of us, unless duty takes us out, keep pretty close during the day; but we come out and take the air at night. The Boers usually finish pounding us toward evening, or just send us a few shells before the sun goes down."

One thing Colonel Baden-Powell has not neglected, and he has effectively swept Mafeking clear of all suspected traitors. Those who are not outside are shut up in particularly strong quarters. He says: "I have 47 prisoners, including the late station master at Mafeking, all of whom were rather more than suspected of treasonable correspondence with the enemy."

The paper goes on to say: "One dark night, a few weeks ago, a Kaffir stole away from the outposts of the little beleaguered township. With the subtle instinct of those children of the earth, which has been lost to civilized man, he made his way through the network of encircling trenches and laagers and set his face to the north and Bulawayo. He carried a couple of assegais, a few medicines and a pipe. The latter may have seemed of little importance, but in the stem of that pipe lay a message from the cheerful, confident chief, which, after a journey to Delagoa Bay, gives to us at home those interesting details of the resistance offered by the town to the Boer siege."

He tells how, even at Mafeking, before war came to them, people were ready to underestimate the character of the hostilities likely to ensue, and pushed the necessity of making any special provision against Boer artillery. But Colonel Baden-Powell was not the man to be swayed by such ostrich-like conduct.

"I have come here to hold this town," he said, straightway, before any enemy appeared on the horizon, set about marking out the line of his outer defense works, and, with that common sense which is the best test of the true soldier, at once directed the construction of ample shell-proof cover against the guns which at that time seemed so chimerical to the people of Mafeking.

"Each one of the outworks," he writes, "all around the town was at once provided with underground shell-proof accommodation for the whole of its garrison. The town itself was divided into three or four sections, each of which had its own arrangements for defense. In each, big mounds of earth have been thrown up, with good interior apartments, all constructed of the hardest material, such as wall supports and roof cross beams of railway metals, with panelings and roofings of corrugated iron."

He then tells us how he converted the cellars of several houses into safe retreats of a similar kind, and by the use of banking large mounds of earth immediately overhead, they rendered good service to the garrison and the inhabitants on the day when the Boer artillery began to rain shot and shell on the devoted little town.

But the perfect, machine-like system which holds sway at Mafeking is perhaps the most interesting fact about the siege. Go into any well known optician's store and you will find the men hard at work turning out as many glasses as they can make in the shortest possible time, chiefly telescopes of great range, now urgently needed by our troops in South Africa. The inadequacy of our supply at the front has got us to serious disadvantages throughout the theater of war. Not so at Mafeking. Her wily chief, from the earliest moment, saw to that, and he tells us how he has them in constant use. In the center of the beleaguered town is a big traverse or mound of earth. Inside this mound is the brain of Mafeking, Baden-Powell.

In Northern Cape Colony.

Armed, Feb. 26.—Colonel Henderson's squadron of the Inniskillings, with two guns, reconnoitered westward to Moolfontein Farm, on the direct road to Colobury and Hanover. They got close to the Boers in the hills, and were fired on. They quickly got their guns in position and shelled the hills. Evidently the Boers were driven out, retiring northward, when they came under the fire of two other guns, supported by a company of Australians, near the British western post on Dragon Hill. Colonel Henderson proceeded to Moolfontein Farm, which he now occupies. The British patrols from Hanover also came out that far. The Boers are not in great force. They have been persistently followed all day and have withdrawn a considerable distance northward.

Fire in London, Ont.

London, Ont., Feb. 26.—The Masonic temple, the finest structure in the city, was destroyed by fire today. The loss is estimated at \$200,000. The Great Northwestern telegraph office and Grand Opera house, which occupied part of the building, are among the places ruined.

A note may be removed from the eye, or the pain at least alleviated, by putting a grain of flaxseed under the lid.

Caused by Gasoline Explosion.

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