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EVENTS OF THE DAY

Epitome of the Telegraphic News of the World.

TERSE TICKETS FROM THE WIRES

An interesting collection of items from the two hemispheres presented in a condensed form.

John Z. Little, the actor, died in Brooklyn, aged 62 years.

The United States will establish a naval station in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

San Francisco has had a case of genuine bubonic plague. Chinatown is to be cleaned up.

The Chinamen of Philadelphia have decided to band together for the purpose of self-protection.

Fifteen persons, the majority of whom were children, perished in a tenement-house fire at Newark, N. J.

In Chicago, while playing with a revolver, a 7-year-old boy shot his mother in the abdomen. The wound will prove fatal.

Erving Winslow, secretary of the Anti-Imperialist League, says that the anti-expansion vote will be between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000.

Walla Walla, Wash., veterans of the Spanish-American war contemplate organizing a camp to be named after General Henry W. Lawton.

Addison C. Rand, president of the Rand Drill Company, and treasurer of the Laffin & Rand Powder Company, died in New York, aged 59 years.

The schooner Lila and Mattie were wrecked on Tillamook bar, being blown ashore while trying to get out of the bay. The vessel will be for many months.

Puerto Ricans must be fed for many months yet. In the center of the island there is nothing to eat and fruit cannot be had for from two to four months.

The Portuguese authorities at Lourenco Marques, at the request of Great Britain, have arrested four Germans bound for Pretoria, with arms and letters of introduction from Dr. Leyds.

Permission to do general business in Japan has been refused 60 foreign insurance companies, most of them American. Japanese officials state that this results from the fact that their applications have failed to comply with the Japanese insurance laws.

It is probable that the warring Chinese tongs in San Francisco will be brought together for the purpose of effecting a peaceful settlement of the difficulties which caused the death of two tongs. The Wah Ting and Sing Sui tongs have been arrayed against the Sui Sing tongs, and while the former organizations started the shooting, the latter retaliated in a terrible way a week ago, when two prominent members of the first named tong were shot down in their places of business.

The senate passed the diplomatic and consular bill.

Queen Lilinokalani will receive no pension from the government.

General Joe Wheeler's resignation will be accepted on his arrival in Washington.

Rear Admiral McCormick has been placed on the retired list on his own application.

Thousands of organized insurgents are resisting the Americans in the Antiope province in Panay.

The annual reports of Indian agents show that the entire Indian population of the United States is 297,905.

The legislature of Illinois appropriated \$100,000 for the reconstruction of the Lincoln monument at Springfield.

The mutual life insurance company of New York, has subscribed for \$2,000,000 of the new English war loans.

The legislative trouble at Frankfurt, Ky., is at the boiling point. Militia is in complete control of the state executive building.

The threatened strike of the employees of the St. Louis Transit Company is off. An agreement satisfactory to both sides was reached.

Indications are that the Boer war is drawing to an end. President Kruger has appealed to Lord Salisbury for a cessation of hostilities.

Taxation of corporations in Paris has led to the transfer of many main offices to Brussels. French societies being incorporated there under the laws of Belgium to avoid the French income tax.

Admiral Kautz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific squadron, has been ordered to proceed with the Philadelphia to the coast of Central America for the purpose of protecting American interests there.

The president has commuted to imprisonment for life the sentence of death imposed by court-martial in the case of Private George Murphy, convicted of the murder of another soldier of the same company in the Philippines.

At Cripple Creek, Col., the February output of gold was \$2,296,700.

Throughout Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, the southwest and west, the heaviest snowstorm in years prevailed.

Democrats of the Kentucky legislature appropriated \$100,000 for detection of Goebel's murderer.

Many college presidents and professors met in Chicago to form an organization to make uniform higher degrees and shut out cheap diplomas.

LATER NEWS.

The United States is organizing a Chinese squadron.

Methuen occupied Boshof, on the way to Mafeking.

The Illinois river is flooded, owing to it is said to the Chicago drainage canal.

The house adopted the conference report on the currency bill by a vote of 166 to 120.

General Cronje and the remainder of the Paardeburg prisoners will be taken to St. Helena.

Rather than have it captured by the British, the Boers will raze Johannesburg to the ground.

The 50th anniversary of the birth of King Humbert I, was appropriately celebrated throughout Italy.

General Kobbie has been appointed Governor of Albany province, Zulou. Hemp ports have been opened.

Lord Roberts' forces have occupied Bloemfontein, and Kroonstadt will be the Free State's seat of government.

James G. Smith, president of the Telegraphers' Union and an inventor of telegraphic devices, died at his home in New York, aged 69.

The Armstrong steel works, at Flint, Mich., burned with a loss estimated at \$130,000. Golden's brewery and cooper shop, adjacent to the steel works, were also destroyed.

Patrick Egan, ex-minister to Chili, and ex-president of the Irish National Federation, has written a letter in which he says that 85 per cent of the Irish people dislike Queen Victoria.

At Price, Utah, Indian Agent Myton, leased 700,000 acres of government land on the Uintah reservation to Eastern Utah stockmasters. The leases run five years, and the amount involved is \$18,000, which goes to the Uintah Indians.

Rev. Dr. Isaac Meyer Wise celebrated his 81st birthday at Cincinnati. He is the oldest rabbi in active service in the United States. Dr. Wise was born in Steingrub, Bohemia, March 11, 1819. After more than half a century spent in America he stands today at the head of the Reform Jews of the country.

President Wheeler has announced to the regents of the University of California that experts of acknowledged repute have been engaged to make excavations and explorations in parts of the world rich with relics of ancient learning. The entire expense of the work will be borne by Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst. In Egypt, Dr. George Reisner will have charge of the explorations. The materials collected by these scientists will be placed in the Archaeological museum to be established at Berkeley.

Filipino insurgents are fighting hard to keep the Americans out of southern Luzon.

Plague in Honolulu is stamped out, after a total of 62 cases, 53 of which were fatal.

A brother of President Steyn, of the Orange Free State, has been captured by the British.

General George White has arrived at Durban and embarked upon the transport for East London.

England politely declined the proffer of the United States to intercede in the war in South Africa.

Near Baker City, Or., an O. R. & N. freight train ran down four Japanese section hands, two being killed.

Labor troubles are rife in Martinique. Riots and incendiary fires spread terror through the island, and ignorant negroes threatened to behead the whites.

The United States government has purchased the steamer Columbia from the Northern Pacific Steamship Company. She will go on the regular Manila run.

The steamship Armenia, loading at New York, will carry supplies to Manila for the American troops in the Philippines, and 2,200 tons of rails and a large amount of steel bridge and structural work for the Siberian railway, to be delivered at Vladivostok.

Senator Sewell has introduced a bill changing the name of the Paris, of the American line, to the Philadelphia.

Three of the ships of the International Navigation Company constituting the American Trans-Atlantic mail service, already bear names of American cities—the St. Paul, the St. Louis and the New York.

T. K. Sudborough, formerly clerk in the auditor's office of the Pacific Express Company, at Omaha, has sued the express company and Ernest Young, its auditor, for \$30,000 damages, alleging that by reason of his arrest on May 26, 1898, on the charge of embezzlement, he has been brought into public scandal and disgrace.

At Columbus, O., the striking machinists, after conceding the right of employers to employ nonunion men on equal terms with union men, insisted upon the employers signing a contract with the union. The Columbus Metal Manufacturers' Association conceded all the demands of the machinists, in so far as wages and hours of labor are concerned, but refused to sign a contract with the union, and as an ultimatum, declared that they would deal with the machinists only as individuals.

During the marriage ceremony of John S. Blair and Miss Somerset, near Perry, O. T., the bride fell dead.

In a department store in San Francisco, two clerks stole \$7,000 from the salary envelopes of the employees.

Near Bluefield, W. Va., Joseph Glenn, a farmer, killed his daughter and her lover and then killed himself.

While resisting arrest Lonnie Logan, a notorious train robber, was killed by an officer in Kansas City, Mo.

A FATAL LANDSLIDE

Six Houses Were Carried Away at Sandon, B. C.

ONE PERSON KILLED, FOUR HURT

All Traffic on the Canadian Pacific Brought to a Stop—Floods on Vancouver Island.

Nelson, B. C., March 14.—A special to the Tribune from Sandon, B. C., announces that a fatal landslide occurred in that town last night. Six residences were carried away, one person was killed and four injured. William S. McLeod, of South Granville, Prince Edward's island, was killed, and his body was found under the ruins by a rescue party the same evening. The injured are: Mrs. W. Nash, Mrs. W. Fogg, Miss Fogg and William Lovett.

No Trains at Vancouver.

Vancouver, B. C., March 14.—No overland train has arrived here since Saturday, all traffic being suspended by mud and snow slides in the interior. Heavy snow slides are reported from the Selkirk mountains, carrying down trees and immense rocks and sweeping away the cut bank truck bridge 150 feet long between Bear creek and Six-Mile creek. Delayed passengers will go through tomorrow, transferring at the break in the line.

Floods on Vancouver Island.

Nanaimo, B. C., March 14.—Conditions here are serious, owing to the wind and rain storms of the past two days. The rainfall for three days aggregated five inches and the Nanaimo river has not been so high for 40 years past and Englishman's river has never been so high as at present. Chase river is also much swollen, several bridges on its road to Union and in the Comox valley being swept away. Telegraph lines are down north of Parkville. Water on some of the roads is axle deep, stopping traffic over an extensive district.

DEATH IN A FIRE TRAP.

Fourteen Persons Perished in a Newark Tenement.

Newark, N. J., March 14.—Fourteen persons lost their lives, two persons were seriously injured and many others slightly burned in a fire in Newark this morning. The firemen, after the flames had been subdued, took 13 bodies from the ruins, and while they were thus engaged another victim of the fire died in the city hospital. One family was wiped out completely, and of another only the father lives, and he is in the city hospital, where it is believed he will die.

The building in which the fire broke out was a veritable fire trap. It was of old frame construction, and extended two stories above the ground floor. Until three or four years ago the structure had been used as a church, but it was converted into a tenement. The lower floor, fronting on 50, 52 and 54 Fourth avenue, was occupied by three stores, and the upper portion of the building was divided into 30 living rooms. As nearly as can be learned, the structure was occupied by 10 families, all Italians. Two of the occupants, Vito Credanza and one other family, took boarders, and, though the total population of the rookery could not be definitely ascertained during the excitement attending the fire, there are said to have been 40 or 50 persons, of both sexes and all ages, in the building when the fire started.

A few minutes before 5 o'clock the people in the building were awakened by the flames. They found them burning at the foot of the stairs leading from the first to the second story. The hallway and stairs were burning, entirely cutting off the egress from the upper floors, on which six families lived. It also cut off the escape by the door for those who lived in the rear part of the first floor. Those who could made for the windows. From these they leaped or dropped. The whole neighborhood was awake in an instant, and from the burning building came agonizing screams and calls for help. From the basement and ground floor the inmates of the building poured naked, or almost so. From the upper stories men and women leaped to the sidewalk. By the time the firemen reached the scene the building was wrapped in flames, and those who had not escaped were dead or doomed. They must have died within a few minutes, for the fire rushed through every room in the frail building within 10 minutes.

The search for the bodies began within 20 minutes after the alarm sounded, so quickly was the fire conquered. When it became known the fire was of incendiary origin, men and women, well nigh crazed by grief, ran tearing around the streets looking for the man who was responsible for the frightful tragedy and threatening dire vengeance.

Louisville, March 14.—W. L. Hazelipp was arrested this afternoon on a charge of conspiracy. Mr. Hazelipp is alleged to have been implicated in the plot to assassinate William Goebel. He is the steward of the Central asylum, and was appointed to that office by Governor Bradley during his term.

Fight at Aparri.

Manila, March 14.—Advices received from Aparri, province of Cagayan, say that while Major Wood and the Sixteenth regiment were leaving that place they were attacked at a landing on the river bank opposite the town. A persistent fire followed, resulting in eight Americans, including Ward, being wounded. The natives in Cagayan valley presumably instigated the attack. Dispatches add that the Tagals are harassing the Americans.

THE WHITE FLAG.

Bloemfontein Surrendered to Lord Roberts.

London, March 16.—The following is the text of Lord Roberts' dispatch to the war office, announcing his occupation of Bloemfontein:

"Bloemfontein, March 15.—By the help of God and by the bravery of my majesty's soldiers, the troops under my command have taken possession of Bloemfontein. The British flag now flies over the presidency, evacuated last evening by Mr. Steyn, late president of the Orange Free State. Mr. Fraser, member of the late executive government, the mayor, the secretary of the late government, the landrost and other officials met me two miles from the town and presented me with the keys of the public offices.

"The enemy has withdrawn from the neighborhood, and all seems quiet. The inhabitants of Bloemfontein gave the troops a cordial welcome."

TELLER AND TURNER.

Two Opposite Stands on the Expansion Question.

Washington, March 16.—Two arguments were presented to the senate today in which almost antipodal positions were taken by two senators. Teller, of Colorado, in a brief speech, maintained that the constitution could not extend over territory acquired by the United States, while Turner, of Washington, elaborately contended that the constitution embraced the acquired territory the very moment the United States took possession of it. Teller held that this government could not make the outlying territory into states or could hold it as colonies, as it saw fit, while Turner maintained that the United States could not hold colonies or dependencies. Aside from the constitutional questions, the two senators were in practical agreement. Both were opposed to the pending bill, and both objected to any of the insular territory becoming a part of the United States or any of its inhabitants citizens of the United States.

The District of Columbia appropriation bill was taken up in the house today, and, under the latitude allowed, Adamson, of Georgia, discussed the Nicaragua canal; Cowherd, of Missouri, the Philippine question; Howard, of Georgia, questions relating to the Philippines and the "open door" policy in the Orient; Rucker, of Missouri, the advisability of electing senators by the people, and Boutwell, of Illinois, replied to Cowherd. The house adopted a resolution setting aside alternate Fridays for the consideration of private bills reported by the claims and war claims committee.

A Nickel Mountain.

Baker City, March 16.—Probably the most important strike ever made in Eastern Oregon was made known in this city today by the return of John T. English, of Illinois, manager of the Goldconda mine, and Frank Nelson, of this city, who stated they had found a solid mountain of nickel lying in Rye valley, about 20 miles southeast of Baker City, on the line of the O. R. & N. railroad. It is a wonderful property, according to their statements. For more than 5,000 feet the ore is traceable on the surface, and the ore bed stands up a distance of 20 feet, and is 1,000 to 1,500 feet wide. The nickel is free milling and runs about \$30 to the ton. Each staked out two claims adjoining each other. They will at once commence the sinking of a 100-foot tunnel under the mountain to test the richness of the discovery.

Self Is Governor.

Auckland, N. Z., March 16.—Advices from Samoa, dated March 1, report that the German flag was hoisted at Apia in the presence of the treaty officials and of Maatafa and Tamasese. Dr. Solf, president of the municipality, is governor. Herr Knipping, formerly vice-consul at Sydney, will act as chief judge and vice-governor. A public reconciliation took place at the flag hoisting between Maatafa and Tamasese. The supreme court, the municipal council, the municipal magistracy and the consular courts were abolished. The laws will remain in force as at present. The natives are all quiet and awaiting news from Germany as to the form of government.

Robbed by Soldiers.

New York, March 16.—A correspondent of the Evening Post, writing from Manila, under date of February 2, says: "When Gregorio del Pilar's body was found, American soldiers stripped it of every bit of clothing, taking the rings from his fingers and a locket from his neck. Not a stitch of any kind was left on the body, everything being taken for souvenirs. For two days the body was left by the roadside unburied, until its odors were offensive and some Igorites were ordered to cover it with dirt. Among the things taken were his watch, money, a gold ring and a diamond ring."

The Chain Trust.

New York, March 16.—Representatives of the various companies to be included in the Standard Chain Company are at present in this city. The company is capitalized at \$1,000,000, and in addition there is an authorized bond issue of \$700,000, of which about \$600,000, it is understood, will be issued at present.

Heir of Millionaire Smith.

New York, March 16.—Among the passengers that arrived today from Liverpool on the White Star Liner Oceanic, was George N. Cooper, of Elgin, Scotland, heir to half the estate of \$50,000,000 left by George Smith, the pioneer banker of Chicago. Mr. Cooper was accompanied by Mrs. Cooper, who also inherited a share of the estate. Mr. Cooper shares with J. H. Smith, the "Silent Man of Wall Street," the entire fortune, after a few minor legacies are paid.

ITS GOOD OFFICES

United States Offers to Act as Mediator.

AT REQUEST OF BOER REPUBLICS

Lord Salisbury Courteously Declined the Aid Proffered by Ambassador Choate.

London, March 15.—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.

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. The interview between White and Salisbury was very brief, the premier confining himself to a courteous verbal declination, without entering into details.

THE FIGHT AT DRIEFONTEIN.

Boers Stubbornly Contested Every Foot of Ground.

Driefontein, Orange Free State, March 15.—Roberts' advance yesterday across the scorching plains from Poplar Grove to this place was marked by the most severe engagements since crossing the Moolder river. The Boers stubbornly contested every foot of ground, only fleeing at dusk, when Roberts threw most of his troops against the center of their weakened line. At the point where Colonel Broadwood turned the Boer left he found himself under the fire of their nine-pounders. The Boers, however, ultimately hoisted the white flag. When Broadwood advanced, he was surprised to find that the Boers had taken advantage of the cessation of fire to escape in the darkness.

Transvaal prisoners showed they were entirely surprised by Roberts' tactics. A Free State whose house President Kruger occupied during the Boer fight from Ostonein said he complained to the president about the depredations of the Transvaalers, whereupon the president replied:

"No wonder we are beaten. The burghers entered into the war to fight for a righteous cause, but now they have developed into horse and cattle-stealers."

Bombardment of Mafeking.

London, March 15.—Lady Sarah Wilson wires to the Daily Mail from Mafeking, under date of March 9, by native runner to Lobatsi, March 6, as follows:

"Saturday, March 3, the Boers furiously bombarded the brick fields and trenches about a mile from the town, for three hours, killing one and wounding two colonials. Monday March 5, they made a determined attack. Owing to a misunderstanding, the colonials evacuated the foremost trench. This the Boers occupied, but reserves were called up, and the trench was recaptured with a rush. We had no casualties."

"The Boers are very active, and it taxes Colonel Baden-Powell and the garrison very heavily to prevent them encroaching on our lines. Since Commandant Syma returned from the North the siege has been prosecuted with renewed vigor."

Opening of Hemp Ports.

Washington, March 15.—General Otis has notified the war department that he has appointed Brigadier-General Wm. A. Kobbie, United States volunteers, military governor of the province of Albany, Luzon, and of the island of Catanduanes and temporarily of the islands of Samar and Leyte. General Kobbie is directed to occupy with his troops the towns of Sorsogon, Legaspi, Donzou and Bulan, of the province of Albay; the town of Biraac, on the island of Catanduanes, and the towns of Calbayog and Catbatogan, on the island of Samar, and the town of Tacloan, on the island of Leyte, and establish civil government as rapidly as possible. He is to appoint officers of his command as customs and internal revenue officers for the more important coast and interior towns that are occupied by our troops. General Otis says it is desirable that the ports in question be opened to trade as soon as practicable.

Mercantile See a Prince.

Kingston, Jamaica, March 14.—Prince Clarence, chief of the Mosquito territory and protégé of the British government, who resides in Jamaica, has been sued by local merchants. His solicitor sets up in defense the allegations that Prince Clarence was the sovereign chief of the Mosquito territory prior to and at the time of the accruing of the cause of action, and therefore is entitled to all the rights appertaining to him as prince of the Mosquito territory.

The solicitor contends that Clarence ought not to be compelled against his will to answer in a legal action before any of the judges or before a minister of the queen in Jamaica, and, on behalf of his client he denies the jurisdiction of the Jamaican courts.

Trial of the Sumner.

Washington March 15.—The quarter-master-general is informed that the sea trial of the transport Sumner, which has just been completed by naval officers at Norfolk, was a complete success and that the vessel will be in complete readiness for the use of the army on the 22d inst. She is to take about 1,000 recruits from New York to Manila. These recruits are intended to fill vacancies in regular regiments in the Philippines due to discharges, deaths and other causes.

HOT TALK IN SENATE.

Gallinger Accused Penrose of Untruthfulness.

Washington, March 17.—"I assert most emphatically that when the senator says I told him I should not speak on this subject, he does not state the truth."

This was the sensational retort made in the senate today by Gallinger, to a statement just made by Penrose. Senators were astonished and the auditors in the galleries quivered with excitement. There had scarcely been the slightest intimation that the debate would take such a turn.

For nearly three hours the senate had under discussion the bill appropriating \$2,995,000 for the benefit of the people of Puerto Rico. Fairbanks had just concluded some remarks on the measure, and suggested that the senate proceed to the consideration of executive business. Pending a motion to that effect, Penrose who has charge of the case of ex-Senator Quay, suggested that a time be fixed for a vote on the case. In the course of his remarks he intimated that certain senators were throwing obstacles in the way of a vote and indicated that Gallinger was one of these senators.

Gallinger quietly replied that he desired to be heard on the question, but had not had an opportunity to speak. To his statement Penrose retorted that the New Hampshire senator had assured him he did not expect to speak on the Quay case. Instantly Gallinger was on his feet, and with evident feeling and with great vehemence, replied as above quoted.

"I don't know whether I don't speak the truth," hotly replied Penrose, "or whether the senator from New Hampshire failed to tell me the truth."

Gallinger retorted that the whole proceeding of Penrose was unmanly and beneath his notice.

The debate on the appropriation bill developed difference of opinion, as Jones, of Arkansas, offered a substitute for the measure a bill to return the duties to those who had paid them, and providing for absolute free trade between the United States and Puerto Rico. The bill had not been disposed of when the Quay case was called up.

The District of Columbia appropriation bill, carrying \$6,608,875, was passed by the house today, and also a bill granting the abandoned Fort Hayes military reservation to the state of Kansas for an experimental station and normal school purposes.

Parkhurst on Their Track.

New York, March 17.—The Rev. Dr. Parkhurst and Superintendent Burr, of the Society for the Prevention of Crime, will go before the grand jury today with evidence that is expected to show that body how it has been possible, under the system of official protection, for gamblers to flourish in New York. Neither Mr. Burr nor Dr. Parkhurst would say last night just what the line of this evidence was, but they intimated that the society was after the gambling commission and the other persons in high places who shared in its spoils, while the prosecution of the gamblers and dive-keepers was only incidental to the main issue, and would be so treated.

Mrs. Blaine's Experiment.

Chicago, March 17.—The Tim Herald says: The servants of a household of Mrs. Emma Blaine are now working under union rules. Eight hours constitute a day's work. The idea is said to have been suggested to Mrs. Blaine by Professor Patrick Geddes, of Edinburgh, who lectured in Chicago a couple of weeks ago. The scientist offered the proposition that there was a chance for the betterment of the condition of household servants, and so well did Mrs. Blaine regard the suggestion that she decided to adopt it, in her home.

The system was inaugurated about 10 days ago, and it is said to have proven highly successful. Society and club women are highly interested in Mrs. Blaine's experiment, and if it continues to work well, the plan may be quite generally adopted.

AN EDICT AGAINST RATS.

Formal Proclamation Issued by the Mayor of Astoria.

Astoria, Or., March 17.—A proclamation, of which the following is a copy, was issued from the mayor's office today:

"To the Citizens of Astoria: In view of the fact that there has been an authentic case of the plague in Chinatown in San Francisco, and the Chinese are constantly coming from there to other cities on this coast, and in view also that the plague now exists in a greatly increased number of ports of the Pacific ocean from which vessels are constantly coming to the ports of this coast, and in view also of the fact that rats take this disease more easily than man, and are generally the first to take it in any port, and then give it to man; and in view of the fact that the diseased rats cannot be isolated in case of an epidemic; therefore I think it proper that the people should be warned to kill the rats by trapping or otherwise, without delay, as a matter of self and public protection. This I consider of great importance, and I hope it will be done immediately, while the council will adopt other measures calculated to prevent the introduction of the disease."

"ISAAC BERGMAN, Mayor."

Plague Situation at Sydney.

Sydney, N. S. W., March 16.—Another death from bubonic plague has occurred here, and two fresh cases have developed.

Furniture Factory Destroyed.

Muskegon, March 17.—Fire tonight destroyed the Sans & Maxwell furniture factory at Pentwater. The loss is estimated at \$300,000.

Prosperity needs more prayer than

JOUBERT TOO LATE

Boer Commander Was Hurrying to Bloemfontein.

HE FOUND THE RAILWAY CUT

Gatere Crossed the Orange River and Occupied Bethulle—Southern Free State Clear of Boers.

London, March 17.—It appears that when Major Weston cut the railway north of Bloemfontein, he thereby intercepted General Joubert, who, far from having retired from the campaign, was then coming southward with 3,000 men, presumably to superintend the defense. Elaborate defense works three miles long had been prepared outside the town. No Boer wounded were left in Bloemfontein. When asked the reason by Lord Roberts, Mr. Frazer replied: "The burghers do not like fish, and would not care to go to Cape Town."

Montague White's threat, in an American newspaper, that the Boers will sack Johannesburg, and raze it to the ground, if necessary, is not taken very seriously. Mr. Chamberlain's statement that President Kruger has already been warned as to the consequence of such conduct is regarded as showing that sufficient precaution has been taken.

By the time Lord Roberts reaches the Vaal river he will command some 80,000 men, while General Buller will have 40,000. From the military point of view the critics now think there is nothing to fear.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Lourenco Marques, dated Thursday, says that strong commands are massing at Warrenton, where the Free States are going to make a stand.

Gatere Crossed the Orange.

London