

VERY LITTLE HOPE FOR MAKEING.

COL. PLUMER CHECKED.

Efforts to raise the siege do not look like early success—Gen. French fighting East of Bloemfontein.

The hope of early relief of Mafeking, or that Col. Baden-Powell will not be compelled to surrender before help reaches him from the north or south, grows dimmer. Gen. Roberts' main army continues resting at Bloemfontein, while Gen. Methuen is skirmishing with the Boers at Warrenton, 67 miles away. Methuen has not advanced in five days in the direction of Mafeking, although his force is apparently strong enough to do pretty much as he likes. It is hoped that he has a pleasant surprise in store by raising the siege of Mafeking with a large column of cavalry and artillery detouring to Mafeking while Commandant Snyman is drawn off to the north of the town. But it is evident that Col. Plumer has been temporarily at least checked in his way down from the north.

Gen. French's cavalry and mounted infantry, according to a rumor, are fighting somewhere east of Bloemfontein. This suggests Boer bad news, as Commandant Oliver's command, with 2000 wagons, is reported on the Basuto frontier, toiling northward toward Kroonstad, via Ladysmith. This enormous wagon train is supposed to be moving 25 miles a day. Gen. French's cavalry posts stretch from Bloemfontein eastward to the mountains.

A dispatch from the east camp at Kroonstad, dated Thursday, says: Affairs are being put in proper shape and the Free State army is quickly returning in crowds. The president's proclamation has shown the burghers that the necessary and sufficient firm. The commands are mobilizing in great numbers and the men are more determined than ever. President Steyn has issued a proclamation in which he warns the burghers who lay down their arms and help the English that they are liable to the strict punishment as traitors.

A letter from Mr. Poulhoney, an interpreter in the Free State courts, has been received by his wife at Bloemfontein, in which he declares that Gen. Joubert is commanding the combined forces at Kroonstad, where there is plenty of men, guns and food stuffs for determined resistance.

A Cape Town correspondent telegraphing Tuesday, says: I have just arrived from Bloemfontein, where I learned that no further movement is probable for three weeks, as negotiations are proceeding and it is necessary to ascertain the nature of the negotiations, or whether Sir Alfred Milner's departure from Cape Town is connected with them, but I should not be surprised if the war collapsed quickly.

Several telegrams have been received between President Kruger and the British government, in addition to the Salisbury-Kruger correspondence, already published. The foreign office received a dispatch from Pretoria Monday, the contents of which communications cannot yet be obtained.

So far as the military situation is concerned, there is practical no change. Lord Roberts is quietly making preparations for the next move. As necessary to a beginning, Gen. Gatacre and Bullard are swiftly moving from point to point in the southern districts of the Free State, dispersing or accepting the surrender of any remaining Boers, thus insuring the safety of Lord Roberts' communications before starting on Pretoria.

Gen. Gatacre is sweeping through the country like a cyclone, with flying columns in all directions. His swiftness and strategy have proved of inestimable value to Lord Roberts.

A Bold Train Robbery.
A lone robber wearing a false face with a black mustache pointed on the mask, and up the southern bank of the Cape, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs, train four miles south of Hamburg, La., at 1:30 o'clock Friday morning. The train was in charge of Conductor Billy McGee. Plagman Moore was first accosted by the robber, who held up a gold watch. He pulled the bell cord and when the train slowed down jumped out and escaped in the darkness. The robbery was reported to the Burlington general offices from Langdon, the first station south of Hamburg.

Chicago Wife Beater Killed.
At Chicago Bertie Finch, 35 years old, shot his wife, George Finch, through the heart Tuesday night to save his mother from being cut to pieces. When the robbery of the bank was bitterly and said he expected to be hanged at once, but that he would do the deed again if he were not freed. Finch was a laborer, used cocaine, drank heavily and had been fined numerous times for beating his wife. At the supper table he worked himself up into a frenzy over nothing, and then he threw a chair at his wife, and then he threw a chair at his wife, and then he threw a chair at his wife.

Yaqis Caught in a Trap.
Gen. Torres' force of Mexican troops as a large body of Yaqui Indians surrounded a short distance north of Toron, and the early surrender or complete annihilation of the rebels is considered certain to take place.

The Indians were nearly caught in a trap and have no means of escaping excepting to cut their way through the ranks of the government troops. This body of Yaquis is said to number fully 500 braves.

CABLE FLASHES.
Two fresh cases of bubonic plague have been officially reported at Sydney, Australia.

There were 4,745 deaths from bubonic plague in the province of Bengal, India, last week, and the disease is spreading fast.

Sydney, capital of New South Wales, and Adelaide, capital of South Australia, have been declared infected with the bubonic plague.

The Argentine cruiser Presidente Sarmiento is visiting ports of Spain and her officers are being signally honored by the Castilians.

The Duke of Orleans was attacked by a bear during a hunt in southern Spain, but killed the animal after receiving a slight wound.

Eight ladies and gentlemen belonging to the best Paris society were found in an opium joint raided by the police, in a state of intoxication.

The French government has ratified the agreement delaying the ratification of the reciprocity treaty with the United States to March 24, 1901.

The French Chamber of Deputies passed the finance bill after the Rightists had refused to vote on the bill, and the government is wrong in all its policies.

Swiss watch makers are combining to protect themselves from American competition. Prices are being offered to develop improvements in the Swiss watch which will tend to maintain its reputation.

In the palace of justice, Paris, Bin, a disappointed litigant, fired three shots at the judge, who had the bullets grazed. While the police were removing Bin, the judge coolly told the next lawyer to continue his case.

LATEST NEWS NOTES.

ADMIRAL AND MRS. DEWEY GREETED BY CROWDS OF ADMIRERS IN MAON, GA., FRIDAY.

Admiral and Mrs. Dewey were greeted by crowds of admirers in Macon, Ga., Friday.

The United States auxiliary cruiser and training ship *Deceit* has left Annapolis for Naples.

More than 4,500 women have registered in Cleveland in order to vote for district of schools.

The State bank of Hardy, Neb., was robbed of \$5,000, the chief being blowing through the dynamite.

Three mines at Booneville, Ind., operated by non-union men, have been closed by striking miners.

The fugitive Quartermaster-General White, of Michigan, has been heard from in South Africa.

At Scranton, Pa., a grand jury is investigating allegations of corruption against city officials.

Old bonds were Wednesday presented to the treasury for exchange amounting to \$18,850.

Society women are going from London to Cape Town in great numbers, this suggests Boer bad news, as Commandant Oliver's command, with 2000 wagons, is reported on the Basuto frontier, toiling northward toward Kroonstad, via Ladysmith.

Paul Reno, a farmer near Detroit, was burned to death when alone in his house and murder and robbery are suspected.

The war department has given orders to have the transport Hancock prepared for the use of the Philippine commission.

Consuls, Pa., mechanics are talking of organizing a general building trades union to enforce a demand for a nine-hour day.

The charter granted the new \$150,000 Carnegie Company empowers it to do almost any kind of business in any part of the world.

Leaders of the recent riots on the Idle apartment for terms varying from six to twelve months each.

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GOEBEL'S MURDER PART OF A PLOT.

NEGRO ASSASSIN.

Sergeant Golden, a Mountaineer Militiaman Who Has Turned State's Evidence, Tells the Awful Story.

John Powers told me he had two negroes here to kill Goebel. They were Hocker and Jim Wallace. This statement was made Saturday by F. Watson Golden, a trail, consumptive-looking Kentucky mountaineer, while on the witness stand in the preliminary examination of Secretary of State McKinley's murder, charged with conspiracy to kill Goebel.

Golden told a story of the events leading up to the murder that, if substantiated, will, in the minds of those connected with the prosecution at least, probably go far toward proving the contention of the Commonwealth that the murder was the result of a plan in which several prominent men were involved.

Golden, who claims to have been a friend of Secretary Powers and his brother John F. Powers, gave a testimony that was particularly damaging to John Powers, but he also told the names of many other persons, including Charles Finley, W. H. Colton and Governor Taylor, in his story of the bringing of the mountaineers to Frankfort previous to the assassination. Governor Taylor, however, was not directly connected with the plot, but the Commonwealth intimated that they do not expect to have his name brought forth through the course of the alleged conspiracy.

Golden's testimony tended to show that a plan was made to bring several negroes to Frankfort, to be used as a cover for the killing of Goebel. Golden expressed his opinion that he is not impatient over what are regarded as the necessary and reasonable delays in the formation of a well-established government.

When a stable and settled policy of the United States is established, he believes the island will have a season of prosperity, and that outside capital, as the deposit of the inhabitants, will be attracted to the island, and the result will be the end of the uncertainty that exists, will find its way into the channels of trade and agriculture.

PUERTO RICANS FEARED.
Poor are starving—Food riots advance and Congress Blamed for Delay.

The situation in Puerto Rico is now more serious than it has been at any time since the late war, and the people are being starved. The price of rice, beans and codfish has increased to such an extent that the people are unable to buy them. Demonstrations against the delay of the United States government in settling the question of the island have been held in the city of San Juan, and the people are being starved.

At Frederickburg, also, is the home of the United States government in settling the question of the island. The Washington military authorities are in contact with the people of the island, and the people are being starved.

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INDEPENDENCE ASSURED.

Secretary Root Talks Freely on His Observations During His Recent Tour of the Islands.

Secretary Root has given to President McKinley the results of his observations of affairs in Cuba during his recent trip to the island.

Mr. Root visited the provinces of Havana, Matanzas and Pinar del Rio, and made it a point to note carefully the conditions of the island and the industry, and to discuss with individuals as well as officials questions affecting their interests. The secretary stated that it will be well to get the time required to make the trip. He expresses himself as satisfied with what he has seen, and appears to be getting along well, and peace prevails throughout the country.

Naturally the question of the ultimate independence of the island came up for discussion during the secretary's visit to Cuba, but he was not prepared to say just when the United States government would be willing that this should be a reality.

In the holding of the municipal elections in Havana, the secretary stated that Mr. Root looked very carefully at these elections, and he stated that they were well conducted, and that the people were well satisfied with the results.

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AN OLD CITY MAN KILLS HIS WIFE.

A FIENDISH ACT.

Amos Elder, of Old City, Pa., an oil operator, shot and killed his wife Sunday evening after a quarrel.

Amos Elder, of Old City, Pa., an oil operator, shot and killed his wife Sunday evening after a quarrel. The woman was found lying on the floor, and the man was found with a revolver in his hand.

The woman fell to the floor and the man stood looking at her for several moments. He then deliberately fired three more shots into her breast.

The man then walked out of the house, and the woman was found lying on the floor. The man was found with a revolver in his hand.

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OUR LOSSES IN PHILIPPINES.

About Fifteen Hundred Deaths in the Army Since Occupation; Less Than Half is Fatal.

War department officials recently published statements that Gen. Otis' campaign is costing upward of 1,000 men every month. According to the official records, since the American occupation of the Philippines, June 1, 1898, up to February 17, 1900, the date of the last official completion, the actual mortality in the army in the Philippines was 65 officers and 1,460 men, a total of 1,525, or at the rate of 74 deaths a month.

More details are contained in the report of Col. Woodhull, chief surgeon of the Philippine army. His report, however, does not extend beyond the end of the last calendar year. It shows that from the time American troops entered Manila up to December 31, 1899, the total number of deaths were 58 officers and 1,463 men. Of this number 42 officers and 570 men died by violence, and 16 officers and 693 men died of disease. Most of the deaths by violence occurred in battle, but a large number were the result of violence outside of actual hostilities. It is a singular fact that more than one-half of the later class of deaths were caused by drowning. The total number of men wounded without fatal results during the period covered by the report was 1,767.

More details are contained in the report of Col. Woodhull, chief surgeon of the Philippine army. His report, however, does not extend beyond the end of the last calendar year. It shows that from the time American troops entered Manila up to December 31, 1899, the total number of deaths were 58 officers and 1,463 men. Of this number 42 officers and 570 men died by violence, and 16 officers and 693 men died of disease. Most of the deaths by violence occurred in battle, but a large number were the result of violence outside of actual hostilities. It is a singular fact that more than one-half of the later class of deaths were caused by drowning. The total number of men wounded without fatal results during the period covered by the report was 1,767.

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