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Charlottetown.

PREPARING FOR THE FINAL MOVEMENTS

Roberts and Methuen to Advance.

AND BULLER ALSO TO MOVE FORWARD.

One Hundred Thousand Men Will March on Pretoria.

Kruger makes a Statement—He will Fight to the Bitter End—Russia's Reply to Kruger's Request to be Published—Portuguese are Active—Mounted Canadians at the Front—Nothing Definite from Mafeking.

SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE EXAMINER.

WHAT KRUGER SAYS.

PRETORIA, March 20.—In an interview President Kruger says: "It is too early to prophesy the outcome of the war or its duration.

"The Boers are in God's hands and He will not let us perish. Our total fighting strength is but forty thousand, but with God's aid we can prevail."

"I have two hundred blood relations fighting, and I would rather see them all perish than yield to England's unholy aggression. It is liberty or death.

"I have protected British property in the Transvaal and I shall continue to do so."

RUSSIA'S NOTE.

BERLIN, March 20.—A St. Petersburg correspondent of the Lokal Anzeiger telegraphs that the Minister of Foreign Affairs has prepared an official communication which will be published within the next day or two.

It contains the Russian answer to President Kruger's request for intervention.

The communique has been drawn up with the knowledge and consent of France and Germany, and has received the full approval of the Czar.

As regards its contents all that the correspondent has been able to learn is that the Note is directed with due precaution against England, and its tone is very serious and will certainly not fail to make a deep impression.

PORTUGUESE PRECAUTIONS.

LONDON, March 20.—The Lorenzo Marques correspondent of The Times, telegraphing March 19, says: "Last night the Portuguese authorities hurriedly despatched by special train a force of infantry to reinforce the garrison on the Transvaal border.

THE OUTLOOK.

LONDON, March 20.—With the exception of a small skirmish at Fourteen Springs, Saturday, no news has reached London of any fighting in South Africa.

It appears that a strong force will be placed at Lord Methuen's disposal which it is thought may not be used for the relief of Mafeking, since another column from Kimberley is already keeping the Boers employed to the south of the besieged town, while from the north Colonel Plumer is moving down toward Baden-Powell's stronghold.

It is thought probable that Lord Methuen's force may make an advance northward simultaneously with that of Roberts by way of Klerksdorp, Potchefstroom and Krugersdorp to Johannesburg, partially

following the route of the Jameson expedition.

The Ladysmith garrison should be ready to resume service about the beginning of April.

General Buller will then have a force of 40,000 men with 120 guns. He will then be stronger than the whole Boer army now left in the field.

His task will be to get to Biggardberg's defence, and then advance direct upon the Transvaal occupying the attention of a large number of Boers to the east while Lord Roberts moves on Pretoria.

By that time Lord Roberts will have been reinforced by Generals Clements, Gatacre and Brabant and will have about 60,000 men and 200 guns, and the country to the rear pacified and with complete control of the railways running direct to Capetown, Port Elizabeth and East London, facilitating the transport of supplies, and the advance may be exceedingly rapid all things considered.

"Lord Wolseley's reports which forecast that the British troops will reach Pretoria by the middle of May, may be justified.

The war seems practically ended as far as Ex-President Steyn's fellow citizens are concerned.

Up to four o'clock this morning no definite news of the relief of Mafeking has been received in London.

The belief, founded upon private telegrams, prevails at Cape Town that the Boers have raised the siege.

CANADIANS AT WORK.

CARNARVON, Cape Colony, March 20.—The Canadian Mounted Rifles under Col. Herchmer, and the Canadian Artillery, commanded by Col. Drury, have arrived here with a contingent of yeomanry. The presence of this force here has had an excellent effect in this district. It is reported that a large force of insurgents is in the vicinity of Vyn Wyskivil.

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IT'S ALWAYS MIDNIGHT GLOOM to the sufferer from the stomach disorders and the diseases which can be directly traced there—neglect or ignorance may have produced the darkness, but so sure as night follows day, just so surely will Dr. Von Stan's Pineapple Tablets let in the sunshine and bring back the full noonday brightness of perfect health. This is taking strong ground—but proof is to be had—one tablet after eating—60 in a box—15 cents.

FIRE THIS MORNING

Stevenson's Corner Badly Damaged

SEVERAL BUSINESS MEN SUFFER LOSSES.

The Fire Was Hard to Fight and Threatened the Block.

About four o'clock this morning fire broke out in the three-story building on the corner of Queen and Sydney streets known as "Stevenson's corner." The fire was well under way when it was discovered, and it was therefore exceedingly difficult for the firemen to get it under control. Chief Large says it was the most stubborn fire the men have had to battle with for a good many years. Indeed, for the first hour or so it looked as if the fire would get the better of the firemen and the whole block would be destroyed. But finally the men got the upper hand of the devouring element, and by hard and unremitting work the fire was "all out" by half-past seven. By that time, however, the building was badly gutted.

Five streams of water were kept playing on the fire during its continuance. The wind was blowing stiffly, and the rain was coming down in torrents.

Mr. Stevenson had his tin shop on one of the upper floors, and his show room in the corner store. His stock was pretty badly damaged. Mr. Stevenson says his loss will be about \$2,000. He has insurance for \$500.

R. H. Jenkins' store adjoined Stevenson's, and his large stock of groceries, etc., was more or less damaged. His loss will amount to several thousand dollars. He carried \$1500 insurance.

The barber shop on Sydney Street, was occupied by Traynor & James. Most of the chairs and other fixtures were removed in time. The firm, it is understood have some insurance.

The building belonged to the McCraith estate, and is insured for \$1,200. The stock in the grocery store of Driscoll & Hornsby, adjoining Jenkins, was also damaged by water and smoke, entailing a loss which is only partially covered by insurance.

IN CRINA.

Anti-Foreign Proceedings.

[SPECIAL TO THE EXAMINER.]

PEKIN, March 20.—The ascendancy of the anti-foreign party is becoming more pronounced daily.

The Dowager Empress appears to be unable to sufficiently reward officials who exhibited marked hostility to everything not Chinese. Her Feng, probably the most bitterly anti-foreign official of the Empire, has been decorated with a three-eyed peacock feather which had not been conferred for 80 years. The notorious Li Peng Huang, who was dismissed from the governorship of Strung-Tung on the German demand, has been advanced to the first rank, and a former governor, Yut Shen, of Shang Tung, has been appointed governor of the Shan Si district—a snub to the powers interested and likely to prejudice British interests in the Province, as the powers believe his maladministration is the cause of the present state of affairs at Shang Tung.

Many

People

Cannot take pills.

Our Native Herbs

(A SPLENDID SPRING MEDICINE) are made into a point of valuable medicine by dissolving two tablespoonfuls of the Herbs to one point of water—a great blood purifier at \$1.00 per box. Cure guaranteed or money refunded.

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ROYAL Baking Powder

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Safeguards the food against alum.

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 - A Prince County Ghost Story, by J. Mollison.
 - Remnants of Acadia Dykes, by W. M. Warren.
 - Rise, Sons of the Empire! M. W. M.
 - Scottish Associations in P. E. Island, by Hon. Senator Macdonald.
 - Tenant League Results, by John Ross.
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