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CONTENTS FOR MARCH.

- "The Idle Hour"—Frontispiece.
- A Reverie, by May Carroll.
- First Settlers of Three Rivers, by Prof. John Caven.
- A Prince County Ghost Story, by J. Mollison.
- Remnants of Acadian Dykes, by W. H. 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.
- The Early Settlers of St. Eleanor's, by Hubert G. Compton.
- To a Wounded Tern, by Jeremiah S. Clarke.
- English Meanings of Irish Names, by W. J. K.
- "Our Boys," by May Carroll.

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## PACIFICATION OF THE FREE STATE

### ONE TOWN AFTER ANOTHER OCCUPIED.

#### Town of Homery Burned by Boers.

Artillery Duel near Vaal River—Boers hold some  
Strong Laagers—The Mafeking Column—Min-  
isterial Policy.

SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE EXAMINER.

#### PACIFICATION.

LONDON, March 23, 1 a. m.—The work of the pacification of the Free State goes on without interruption.

The details are not of thrilling interest but the results are practical and substantial.

One town after another has been occupied on the line of railway south of Bloemfontein, and there have been cavalry circuits and infantry marches eastward to Thata N'chu and Smithfield and westward to Philippolis and Fauresmith. There are press summaries of these various episodes, but there are no incident of special significance.

In the southern section the Free State has ceased to be. When all the rifles have been collected and ammunition delivered, the march northward will be taken in easy stages, and the same process of pacification will be continued.

#### THE CAMPAIGN.

BLOEMFONTEIN, March 23.—Generals Gatacre and Clements are carrying their columns northward to the capital, east and west of the railway line. Lord Roberts' army will have with their reinforcements 60,000 men for forcing the passes of the Vaal river. The campaign in Natal has not yet been reopened, but preparations are making for a rapid movement of Buller's forces with system of improved transport.

The town of Homery has been burned by the Boers who are reported to number 5000 in Biggarsberg. Boers are entrenched in that quarter to prevent an advance into the Transvaal by way of Rorke's Drift. If General Buller has in mind a turning by which Laing's Nek may be averted, military experts assume that Buller's army will be mainly employed in expelling the Boers from Natal and occupying the southeastern quarter of the Transvaal, while Lord Roberts is marching to Pretoria.

The official view, so far as can be ascertained, is that the war will be virtually ended by the middle of May.

This forecast does not include a guerilla warfare in the mountain districts by which hostilities may be protracted for several months.

#### BOER LAAGER.

WARRINGTON, March 21.—An artiller duel took place this morning north of the Vaal River.

The battery of artillery under Major Blewitt silenced the Boer guns. The artillery was supported by the Kimberley Light Horse.

A reconnaissance showed that the Boers held several strong laagers.

#### RUMORS.

LONDON, March 23.—There are many press despatches respecting Colonel Plumer's operations which, according to Boer accounts, have taken an unfavorable turn for the British side.

There were rumors last night that Mafeking had been relieved, but that General Gatacre had met with a reverse in the Free State.

The War Office closed at midnight

without confirming these reports.

#### MINISTERIAL POLICY.

LONDON, March 23.—The ministerial policy points, without a shadow of doubt, to the extension of *Pax Britannica* to the Transvaal on the lines now followed in the Free State.

There will be no fresh convention or treaty of peace.

The Boer army must first disappear from the field and then the process of reconstruction will be opened by Mr. Chamberlain. Foreign intervention will not be tolerated on any terms.

#### IN THE NORTHEAST.

LONDON, March 23.—A despatch from Kimberley, dated Thursday, says: The date of the departure of the Mafeking column from here has not yet been fixed.

The head of the railway has reached Content, about 36 miles north of Kimberley. The point at Fourteen Streams is guarded by our troops.

Skirmishing continues around Warrington.

The Boers are reported to have four guns, but this is doubted.

#### Turkish Ladies.

LONDON, March 23.—The Constantinople correspondent of the Times says: "Eight ladies of the palace have been sent into exile for machinations in connection with the Sultan's fugitive brother-in-law, Mahmud Pasha. The palace secretary, Kaimal Bey, was suddenly exiled to Hedjaz last Saturday. The reason has not been made public."

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 Pileapple 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.

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#### A NON-COMMITTAL GRIT.

SIR,—Now that the old Tory steamer Stanley has succeeded in reaching Charlottetown all fair and unbiased persons must come to the conclusion that the new Liberal steamer Minto is the better boat. To adopt the choice language of Mr. S. C. Moore, of the stationery firm of Haszard & Moore, who recently "combined business with pleasure" and had a trip in the Minto, and was afterwards reported in the Patriot as saying: "The idea of some people asserting that the Minto is not a superior boat to the Stanley is too ridiculous to merit a reply,—such sentiments emanate either from pitiable ignorance or from a deliberate desire to deceive those who have never crossed in both boats and hence are not in a position to judge the merits of either."

I do not admit that I have ever crossed in either of the steamers, and after reading Mr. Moore's interview with the Patriot reporter I won't admit that I have combined business with pleasure. But I will admit that I have come to the conclusion that the Minto is a superior boat to the Stanley, but in what way or manner I do not say, for, before perusing Mr. Moore's interview I will admit that I had an idea that in order to make a comparison of the respective work of two steamers it would be necessary for an experienced and competent person to travel in both boats under like conditions and circumstances. But now I will admit and not deny that according to Mr. Moore's opinion as published in the Patriot this is not necessary.

Many persons will deny that Mr. Moore is qualified to form an opinion on the merits of the two steamers, and I will not admit that he is; but it is to be hoped that those persons who are unfortunate enough to differ from him will bear in mind that they have Mr. Moore's statement that they are deserving of pity, that their assertions are too ridiculous to merit a reply, that their sentiments emanate either from pitiable ignorance or from a deliberate desire to deceive those who have never crossed in both boats. Let them remember all that and keep quiet. I will admit that Mr. Moore is a much disinterested person; but I will not admit that he is either a shipbuilder, a mechanic, a seaman or an old salt; but I will admit and not deny that he is a relative of Sir Louis H. Davies, K. C. M. G., Minister of Marine and Fisheries for the Dominion of Canada under whose department the Minto was built and under whose control she has been managed all winter. I will admit that Mr. Moore is a strong Liberal and is a member of a firm which is in receipt of considerable patronage from the Dominion and Local Governments and that last year for printing alone—somewhere in the vicinity of \$1200 was received by that firm from the Dominion Treasury. I will admit that the Stanley reached this city with little or no difficulty, whilst it was considered that the Minto could not, and I will admit that Mr. Moore has many interests in keeping the Liberal Government in power, and that many persons will on that account discount Mr. Moore's opinion; but I deny that any of these considerations should weigh with the public when considering the value of his certificate regarding the qualities and efficiency of the Minto "under the skilled guidance of Capt. Finlayson, that master mariner of wintry seas." NON-COMMITTAL GRIT.

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March 5, 1900—