

The Captured Boer Letters

War Office Publishes Interesting Correspondence Between Reitz and Stevn.

Sworn Testimony of the Butchery of the British Wounded at Valkfontein.

London, July 18.—The war office issued late tonight a despatch from Lord Kitchener, giving the correspondence between Mr. Reitz and Mr. Steyn, that was captured with the latter's baggage near Lindley on July 11. Mr. Reitz, under date of May 10, wrote Mr. Steyn that a meeting of the Transvaal government had been held, attended by Gen. Botha, Gen. Villioen and Mr. Smutz, to consider the situation and the best way to catalogue the difficulties, the serious surrenders of burghers entailing heavy responsibility on the government, the rapidly decreasing supply of ammunition, the high cost of maintaining the government, and the lack of any definite assurance of European intervention. "I

view of these facts," he said, "the government has decided to address a message to the Reichstag. I am sure that the Reichstag will understand the terrible conditions.

"The time has passed for us to let matters drift as at present; we must take a final step."

After a pause, replying on May 15, upbraids Mr. Reitz with weak-heartedness, saying:

"There is still sufficient ammunition to continue the struggle. You ask what prospects there are of a successful result. I say that there are no prospects for two small republics when they declared war against the mighty power of Great Britain? You will answer that we trusted in God and in foreign intervention. What reason is there now for such trust? I have read the leading European newspapers, and I firmly believe that complications will occur

Europe in the course of a few months which will secure our good fortune." Mr. Kruger and other Boers remain in Europe convinces him that they consider that case not beyond hope. He adds that Mr. Kruger also agreed under the terms of Mr. Beit's take no steps until he heard further from him.

Johannesburg, July 18.—In the course of the past week, under the aegis of today, various non-commissioned officers and men of the British army confirmed the statement that the Boers shot the British wounded at "Lakfontein."

SAVOY PROGRAMME.

The management of the Savoy has practically secured control of the Vancouver market of the Northwest, owing to the other houses of the Pacific Coast having closed for the heated term. The

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The cherry crop has been marvellous this year. The fruit going to points in the Northwest and along the Crow's line. Plums and prunes of all kinds are heavily loaded with fruit, while the yield is more irregular, and will hardly reach last year's output.

The weather is excellent for farming operations, dry and fine, but not too hot for comfort. A trip through the Snake valley at this time of the year is delightful.

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