

HOTTEST CORNER

In Which Canada's Second Continent Were Placed.

Sergt. Ralph Markham's Graphic Narrative of a Retreat When the Boers Were on Top.

BELFAST, S. A., Nov. 10.—Lillefontein (pronounced Lilyfontein) sounds peaceful enough, but we will always think of it as the hottest corner we were ever in.

I have just returned from the funeral of three of our men who were killed on the last reconnaissance to the above place, Sgt. Builder, Corp. Tilson and Lieut. Anderson.

We had driven the Boers off a long flat plateau which overlooked the country for miles. We camped at one end of the plateau for the night, and next morning we started for Belfast by the same road we came out. Our troop was the right flanking patrol for the Canadian guns under Lt. Morrison.

We shelled large parties of Boers before we started to retire, and they disappeared behind the hills.

After going for half a mile I saw the whole rear guard galloping towards us. In a few minutes the Boers, two hundred of them, came along in one long line with an interval of about ten yards. They kept perfect line and were firing from their saddles, and rapidly gained on us. They came in on our left flank in greater numbers than at the rear, and it was here that they cut off our men.

The rear guard dismounted several times and opened on them, but it got so hot that they had to mount immediately or get caught, so it gradually developed into a chase—infantry, cavalry, artillery, cavalry and mounted infantry.

Luckily we came to a spruit where we could make a stand, and we held the Boers in check until the artillery (Canadian) could come into action. But the Boers still kept firing at our rear guard for two or three miles.

The galloping Colt gun belonging to our squadron was so hotly pursued that Sgt. Holland had to take the gun off the carriage and carry it with him on his saddle. When the Boers came up to the carriage they wheeled it around as if to open fire on us, but they soon discovered there was no gun. However, they got 1,400 rounds of ammunition in the carriage, which they can use in the rifles they took from the men who were captured.

The Boers almost captured one of the Royal Canadian artillery guns. The bullets were dropping all around the gun, and if one of the battery horses had been hit they would certainly have had the gun. The gunners were running by the guns, as the horses were almost exhausted. It is thought that it was the gun, which the Boers could see not three hundred yards away, that made the Boers charge us.

In fact a prisoner we got told one of our men that his command was ordered to charge the rear guard and guns.

The Boers captured a dozen or more of our men, and after taking their arms, horses, saddlery, etc., let them go.

Some of these men tell interesting stories. Hilder of 2nd troop was holding four horses. The Boers rode up to him and after searching him asked why he was fighting. He said, "For the same reason you are." A young Boer then came up and told Hilder that his brother had been killed the day before and he intended to shoot Hilder. One of the older Boers interfered and sent him away.

The Boers are living in the houses all over the country. I was in one house that had six double beds. In another I found a Boer in bed with a sprained ankle.

The 2nd battalion burned over 15 of these houses, and in one they found a Boer hiding under the floor.

Farrier Sgt. Cope was hit in the forearm and Pte. Roberts was hit in both arms in this fight. In one arm the bullet went in near the elbow and came out just at the base of the little finger, knocking the stone out of his ring and flattening another ring on the same finger. Pte. Berg was hit on the shoulder blade, the bullet stopping against his backbone. Lieut. Turner was hit in the neck and arm. Lieut. Elmsley was hit just above the heart. All these men, it is expected, will recover. When Elmsley was hit he was not ten feet away from Andy McIntosh and your humble servant. We were halted and could hear the bullets whistling over our heads. Suddenly one seemed to pass just at the end of my nose. I turned around and looked at McIntosh, who was looking down at himself to see if he was hit. It was at this moment that Lt. Elmsley fell forward on his horse's neck.

It was a fine sight to see the Boers coming along in line, firing from their horses' backs, but from the point of personal safety it was not advisable to look at them too long.

The latest rumor is that we are to leave here next week. I think we are really going, as myself saw the order that we were to be ready to "proceed to Pretoria on shortest notice." The 2nd batt. C. M. R. and the Canadian artillery are to go with us.

I will write you the day we leave Belfast.

RALPH MARKHAM.

CORNWALLIS NEWS.

CORNWALLIS, N. S., Dec. 24.—Charles Beales has purchased a place at Factoryville from George Taylor of Aylesford.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dickie of Canada are visiting the upper provinces. J. R. Forbes, of the Halifax Banking Co. at Canning, has been transferred to the bank at Windsor, while Charles Hendley of that town takes his place in Canning.

F. M. Logan, manager of the Acadia Dairy Co., Wolfville, leaves next week for Guelph College, Ontario. Mr. Logan is also high chief ranger of Nova Scotia in the I. O. F.

Mrs. John Newcombe of Habitant has recently returned from Boston with her little daughter, who underwent a successful operation for facial trouble, the result of whooping cough.



Training

Is indispensable to athletic success. In training, much stress is laid upon diet; careful attention to the quantity and quality of the food eaten, with regularity of meals.

That is the secret of strength for every man. No man can be stronger than his stomach. The careless and irregular eating of business men causes disease of the stomach and its allied organs of digestion and nutrition. There can be no sound health until these diseases are cured.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures diseases of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition, and enables the body to be built up into vigorous health by the assimilation of the nutrition extracted from food.

"I was taken with the stomach trouble," writes Mr. T. R. I. of Montreal, Alleghany Co., N. C. "I was unable to do anything a good part of the time. I wrote to Dr. Pierce about my condition, having full confidence in his medicine. He advised me to take his 'Golden Medical Discovery,' which I did. Before I had finished the second bottle I began to feel better. I have now taken six bottles. I feel thankful to God for the benefit I have received from Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. I can highly recommend it to all persons as a good and safe medicine."

Dr. Pierce's Pellets cure constipation.

IN ICY WATERS.

Crew of an American Schooner Have a Terrible Experience.

NEW LONDON, Conn., Dec. 24.—The crew of the three masted schooner Marcus Edwards, brought into this port at 10 o'clock tonight by the United States lightship tender Cactus, tell of the fearful experience of clinging to the side of the captured vessel in the icy waters of Long Island Sound from the early morning until 6 o'clock tonight, when they were discovered and their rescue effected.

The Marcus Edwards, of 135 tons burden, sailed four weeks ago from Port George, N. S., for New York, with a cargo of tile. In weathering a recent storm, a leak was sprung, which increased in size until at one o'clock this morning the pumps were worked at the rate of 60 strokes a minute in order to keep the vessel afloat. No daylight should bring the vessel to the surface, but the pumps were worked at the rate of 60 strokes a minute in order to keep the vessel afloat. All hands rushed to the deck and superhuman efforts were made to cut away the rigging, but of no avail, and in a few minutes the schooner went over, settling on her side in the water. The crew of six men were all thrown clear when the Edwards capsized, and with some difficulty succeeded in working their way back to their vessel, to cling there until daylight should bring them to the surface. But at daybreak the fog was so dense that all sight of land, and even the sky, was shut out, and not a sound penetrated the deadened atmosphere.

For 16 hours the men clung there, soaked by the waves and the incessant drenching mist, until 6.30 tonight they were sighted by the Cactus. Captain V. C. Bagley of the Marcus Edwards explains the disaster on the theory that the constant leaking had so weakened the centreboard that it finally gave way, causing the schooner to fill immediately.

The Edwards was owned at Jonesport, Maine, and tomorrow an attempt will be made to tow her into port.

CHRISTMAS CLOSING.

The closing of the school year was celebrated in a unique and interesting manner by Miss Gertrude Morrell in her school at Westfield. Invitations were sent to all the people in the district and to a host of friends outside to be present at the school house on Dec. 20th at 7 o'clock p. m. Long before the appointed time the school was packed. The decorations within the building were in perfect taste. Entwined around the door were beautiful wreaths of evergreen studded with red berries, while standing out in bold crimson letters on a background of gold was the motto "Without the door let sorrow lie and wish to all a merry Christmas." Directly opposite was a life size portrait of the Queen, which was artistically draped with flags. On either side of the portrait blackboards were painted sketches of Santa Claus, the first representing him just disappearing down the chimney, while the second showed him before a great fire place loading the children's stockings with candies and toys, so dear to the children's heart. A little farther to the left was Father Time in the act of turning over a new leaf in his great book. The teacher's desk was removed and in its place stood a great Christmas tree which reached to the high ceiling and was loaded almost to the breaking point with every kind of good thing.

At 7 o'clock the scholars filed out of the classroom, two abreast, with a beautiful silken Union Jack at their head, and, marching to the music of a miniature drum, formed a hollow square two deep and sang the "Soldiers of the Queen," standing under a magnificent canopy of flags.

The programme consisted of the following, which was well rendered: Recitation, My Sister's Best Friend by George Parlee; A Little Girl's Speech, B. C. Craig; dialogue, Marrying a Poetess, by M. Brown, Bessie Appt, Miss G. Morrell and Sadie Brown; recitation, Watching for Crumbs, by H. Parlee; dialogue, The Letter by G. and H. Parlee; recitation, Whipping the Boy, by Bessie Appt; reading, Briar Rose, by Miss G. Morrell; recitation, Which One Are You Going to Drown? by Hilda Belyas; dialogue, The Irish Love Letter, by Louise Parlee, Bessie Appt

and Miss G. Morrell; recitation, Charterbox, by Eva Craig; dialogue, A Rose and a Thorn, by Sadie Brown; Mildred Craig, M. Parlee and Louise Parlee; recitation, Was it a Crime? by Miss G. Morrell; dialogue, On the Way to Mount St. Helens, Mildred Craig and C. Long.

After the programme was finished Rev. Mr. Parlee addressed those present on the subject of education, and paid a well merited tribute to the teacher for the efficiency of the school and the high grade of excellence which they have attained under her tutelage.

The Christmas tree engaged the attention of the spectators for a while as the gifts of the teacher were transferred to the children and with the singing of the national anthem the party broke up.

Miss Morrell has had charge of this school for the past year, and beside being a first class teacher of more than ordinary ability she is a distinguished linguist, speaking fluently in French and Latin. The people of Westfield may consider themselves favored, as she is going to remain in her present position for another term.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

A pleasant gathering of the traveling and office staff of the Frost & Wood Co., Ltd., on Saturday evening at the residence of the local manager, Wm. F. Burditt, Crounchville, was made the occasion of the presentation to Mr. Burditt of a handsome easy chair. The presentation was made by J. D. Schurman on behalf of the staff in a brief address and was acknowledged by Mr. Burditt in a suitable manner.

At St. John's (stone) church Sunday school on Sunday afternoon the reciter presented Miss Amy Winters with a very handsome oak inkstand and pen rack. The present was a recognition of Miss Winters' great services in the Beehive society in connection with the mission to the Jews.

The Ladies' Aid society in connection with the Home for Incurables has gladdened the hearts of both staff and inmates by generous and appropriate gifts, and in addition for eachy pound of home-made confections, put up in very neat boxes.

Alexander Grey, foreman of the St. John Ice company, was presented on Saturday night by the employees of the company with a handsome cardigan jacket, a silk handkerchief and a scarf. Mr. Grey was an efficient employee of Mrs. Whistler for thirteen years, and is a popular man with his co-workers.

Fred E. Marvin and Fred P. Elkin, superintendent and bookkeeper respectively of the Maritime Nall Works, residing in St. John, surprised the staff on Saturday, when they were waited upon by the employees. Mr. Marvin's attention was first asked, while a very flattering address was read to him, wishing him a merry Christmas, etc., and as a memento of the season he was presented with a handsome fur cap and gloves. Mr. Elkin was next called to the front, when another address was read and he was presented with a beautiful dressing case. Mr. Marvin, in reply, spoke of the good feeling that existed between the employers and the employees, and expressed his appreciation of the gift very much. Mr. Elkin tendered his thanks to the men for their kind remembrance of him. Both wished the men a joyful Christmas.

HOPWELL HILL.

Christmas Services, in St. John's Church—Presentations.

HOPWELL HILL, Dec. 25.—The Christmas service today in St. John's Church of England was one of particular attractiveness and was largely attended. The interior of the church was beautifully decorated with evergreen and illuminated texts. The reciter, Rev. Mr. Smithers, delivered an especially interesting and appropriate sermon from the words, "Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy." The choir sang Carol, Sweetly Carol, Hark the Herald Angels Sing, Gently Falls the Winter Snow, the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. Mrs. M. B. Dixon sang a solo very acceptably. Rev. Mr. Smithers also held Christmas services this week at River View, New Ireland and Hillsboro.

Geo. Wallace of Curryville and Miss Ethel Steeves of Moncton were married last evening at the residence of Albert Milton, brother-in-law of the bride, by Rev. Mr. Townsend.

The Presbyterian people of Riverside have been presented with a bell for their church by Lt. Gov. McEllean. Miss Celia I. F. Peck, organist of the Episcopal Church, was presented this evening by the reciter and choir with a very handsomely bound copy of the Latin Hymn-book.

"Ah," said the guest, "I see you have an axe of the wood of the 'Axe of the Wood'." responded the candid landlord. "In case the folding bed should close suddenly."—Chicago News.

A SOUND HORSE.

KENDALL'S SPAVIN CURE.

As a sound horse is always valuable, Limp, Bunches and Lameness cut the price in two. Almost any kind of a horse may be made sound by the use of

KENDALL'S SPAVIN CURE,

the old reliable remedy for Spavins, Ringbones, Splints, Curbs, and all forms of Lameness. Cures without a blister. Price 50¢; six for \$2.50. As a guarantee for family use it has no equal. It is also a valuable remedy for the Spavin Cure, also "A Treatise on the Horse," the book free, or address

DR. B. J. KENDALL CO.,
Enosburg Falls, Vt.

OUTBREAK OF SMALLPOX

In a Large Section of Westmorland County.

Cape Tormentine Railway Closed for Outward Traffic in Consequence—Sixty Cases Reported—Provincial Board of Health Moves Slowly.

SACKVILLE, N. B., Dec. 24.—Dr. J. O. Calkin, health officer of this place, has just returned from Botsford, 25 miles from here, where he has been making an investigation into alleged smallpox cases. He states there are about 60 cases extending along the road from Cape Tormentine to Port Elgin, over a range of 20 miles; also at Cape Bald, about twenty miles distant in another direction. Dr. Calkin was assisted in this examination by Dr. H. Lunan of Campbellton, who has had large experience in dealing with the disease in that locality, and also by the local doctors. The cases are typical, but mild. The disease has been prevailing in that locality since the first of October. Mrs. J. J. Mahoney having arrived from Grand Anse, Gloucester county, about the 20th of September and being taken down about a week later.

The cases were so light that not much attention was paid to them, and the epidemic passed under the name of chicken pox. The death of Jeremiah Sweeney, an aged and respected inhabitant, on the 20th December, first drew public attention to the matter, leading to the investigation.

No other cases have proved serious, but considerable excitement prevails. The Cape Tormentine railway was closed today so far as outward traffic is concerned, and precautions have been taken to stop people leaving, by posts at the various highway bridges.

But people have been moving around through the infected district for three months, and smallpox is therefore liable to break out anywhere in the province. Some apprehension is felt that the disease may develop into a more virulent type, and every effort is being made to check its spread. The churches and schools are all closed.

Writing under yesterday's date the St. John's regular Sackville correspondent said: The cases at Botsford have been pronounced smallpox, though of a mild type. The secretary of board of health from Fredericton, Dr. Fisher, has placed the town in quarantine, and no mails or passengers will be allowed to pass either way. An expert from Campbellton has been sent for. Dr. Fisher was in Sackville over Sunday.

(St. John Globe, 24th.)

Apparently the smallpox at Port Elgin is much more prevalent than the authorities imagined. Dr. D. P. Fisher, secretary of the provincial board of health, returned today from a visit to Port Elgin. Dr. Fisher told the Globe that in his opinion there are fully a hundred cases of the disease in and about Port Elgin. Further, he says, it is a very mild type, and only one death has occurred, and for that the smallpox is not held entirely responsible, as the victim was quite an aged man. Dr. Fisher said the disease was taken to Port Elgin by a woman who went there about three months ago from Gloucester county. She was well at the time, but a week or two later the disease broke out and has since been spreading all over the place, and as there has been constant communication between Port Elgin and the outside world, it need not be surprising if cases are heard of all over the province. Dr. Fisher said the local physicians had been treating the outbreak as chickenpox. He, however, is convinced it is smallpox, and has sent to Gloucester for one of the physicians there to come down and see if it is not exactly the same type as in that county. In the meantime all railroad communication has been cut off and every precaution taken to prevent a further spread of the disease. Dr. Fisher said the outbreak is of such a mild form that many of the people prefer taking it to suffering the pain and soreness of vaccination.

SACKVILLE, N. B., Dec. 26.—A large and influential meeting of the citizens of Sackville, presided over by J. L. Black today, was attended by Dr. McDonald, Mayor Campbell, and the county board of health, to take action with reference to the smallpox cases in Botsford. The doctors announced they had quarantined all suspected cases and ordered compulsory vaccination in the infected district, where they had closed schools and churches and directed that outward communication from that district be prevented. They reported that chicken-pox had been prevalent for three months or more, with some cases of varioloid, probably 150 in all, and that about 60 cases existed at present. They were so mild in character that they yielded to home treatment, in most cases without medical aid. It was on Friday last that Dr. Carter for the first time detected smallpox, when he notified the board, which took immediate steps to prevent its spreading. Less than a dozen cases in all of smallpox had come under the cognizance of the doctors, including one at Cape Bald, and also a case of the very similar symptoms has been prevailing in Sackville, but the doctors pronounced these all chicken-pox. At this date there is no known case of smallpox in Sackville or within 20 miles of it. The board of health directed that no passengers or freight be brought from the infected district and that the mails from there be disinfected. This will not interfere with through business with P. E. Island. The meeting discussed the establishment of a quarantine station in which to detain travellers from the infected district. These and other measures were left to the discretion of a committee which was appointed to cooperate with the board of health to take vigorous action to check the further spreading of the disease. The committee appointed consisted of Dr.

Borden, Walter Fowler, Harvey Phinney, Thos. Estabrooks, W. C. Milner, Major Black, Col. Baird and James Smith.

(Signed) B. C. BORDEN, Chairman.
W. C. MILNER, Secy. for the Citizens' Committee.

SMALLPOX AT MELROSE AND PORT ELGIN.

SACKVILLE, N. B., Dec. 24.—Never perhaps were more groundless stories circulated than the reports published in the St. John papers yesterday regarding the smallpox in the parish of Botsford. Your correspondent, who has given the matter his closest attention, can assure you that while there are some thirty cases of the disease, it is of the very mildest type. Every precaution is being taken to check it. There is no outward traffic or mails on the N. B. and P. E. I. railway, and business in Port Elgin and Melrose has been suspended. The board of health has taken the matter in hand, and the disease will no doubt be promptly exterminated. There is no serious case, in fact most of the patients are apparently as well as ever, except for a very slight rash. Every suspected house was quarantined at once. Dr. Carter of Port Elgin has been put in charge of the district, and it is being watched with the greatest care. There is no danger of the disease spreading.

Two new cases are reported today, but they are in houses where the flag was already flying. The cases are exercised, and considering the very mild form of the disease, there seems no reasonable grounds for the general scare.

Your correspondent has communication with the district by telephone, which in fact is the only way now open, and can assure Sun readers there is absolutely no grounds for the reports published yesterday. The nearest cases reported are at Port Elgin, 20 miles from here, and those are among the mildest.

FUMIGATING THE I. C. R. CARS. (Globe, 26th.)

Learning that the late Mr. Sweeney, of Port Elgin, died from smallpox, the local health authorities today started to find out whether or not his son, Michael Sweeney, a teacher in the north end schools, had been home for the burial. It was learned that he had gone home, but had not returned, and is now in quarantine there, and that his brother, Frank J. Sweeney of Moncton, who is ill with the disease, is improving. The local health authorities feel very grateful to Station Master Ross and to officials of both the I. C. R. and C. P. R. for the kindness shown them in tracing out Mrs. Carpenter and her child, who had to be returned to Port Elgin; also to Mr. McGrath of the station restaurant, who provided her with meals.

The I. C. R. has had all the cars in which the mother and child travelled properly fumigated.

While Mrs. Carpenter was compelled to go back to the infected district, another passenger from Port Elgin got through and is now in Boston. She was a Mrs. Avard, who was a passenger on Monday's train to see her son, a telegraph operator in Boston, formerly on the C. P. R. staff in this city.

OUTBREAK AT CAPE TORMENTINE.

Dr. Fisher, secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, was in St. John again today. His latest advice is that the smallpox has broken out at Cape Tormentine. The steamer Stanley has been running between Summerside and Cape Tormentine. Now it will be necessary to place her on the Pictou-Georgetown route. Dr. Fisher says it is not yet known whether or not the outbreak is of the mild type, but it has not already been carried outside, the probability is that it will not be.—Globe, 26th.

ST. MARTIN'S NEWS.

Invincible L. O. L., No. 16, in "Wallace Hall," Orange Hill, elected on Dec. 22 the following officers for the ensuing year: George Patterson, W. M.; Wm. Morrow, D. M.; Calvin Bradshaw, chap.; Fred M. Cochrane, R. Sec.; James A. McCumber, P. Sec.; Robert Dunlop, treas.; Frank Cochrane, lecturer; John McIntyre, D. C.; Wm. Greer and John W. Wright, tylers.

The St. Martin's Debating Club has been reorganized and meets fortnightly. The last subject for discussion was which was the most popular U. S. president, Washington or Lincoln? Wm. Wilson and A. W. Fowles were the captains of the different sides. After much interesting and lengthy discussion, the chairman decided the question in favor of Washington.

The Methodists held a sale of useful and fancy articles in the Temperance Hall on Friday evening, Dec. 21.

FREE.

Simply send us your name and address, and we will send you any of the following goods to suit you, when you have sold 25¢ worth of goods, or when you will send us the money and we will send you this elegant silver Nickel Watch. FREE. Guaranteed to be a good time keeper. The goods you want you to sell are our Gold Plated Lever Collar Buttons, which sell at 10¢, or our National Pens, which sell at 10¢ per packet; our Aluminum Thimble, with a packet of Needles, sells for 10¢; the Jeweled Ring, which makes a pint of ink, sells for 10¢; a pair of Gold Plated Buttons, which sell at 10¢; and your name and address at once, and we will send you these watches. Ladies Watch for selling \$2.50 worth of goods. We also give Violins, Accordions, Gold Rings, Pens, Air Guns, etc.

NATIONAL TRADING CO., Toronto

WINSTON CHURCHILL

Does Not Believe Charges of Inefficiency Against the Army.

Says Lord Kitchener Should be Given All the Troops He Needs to Terminate the War.

"The sooner Britain and Boer can get down to the working out of their destiny in South Africa the better."

"General Lord Kitchener should be given all the troops he requires to bring the war to a speedy close."

These were the sentiments expressed by Winston Churchill, member of the British house of commons, for the constituency of Oldham who gained some reputation as war correspondent for the London Morning Post in South Africa.

Mr. Churchill arrived in the city yesterday morning from Boston, and after spending a short half hour in Montreal, left for Ottawa, where he will be the guest of Lord and Lady Minto at Government House over Christmas. On Wednesday he will return to Montreal for his lecture in Windsor Hall upon the war as he saw it.

Speaking of the situation in South Africa, Mr. Churchill said that though he did not feel any alarm so far as the military situation was concerned, he was strongly of the opinion that the new commander-in-chief, Lord Kitchener, should be given all the troops he asked for to bring the present sanguinary struggle to a speedy end. Just as long as the Boers held out and claimed that the Orange Free State and Transvaal were independent, the public just so long would Cape Colony be the centre of Dutch influence. The Dutch in Cape Colony were practically Boers, and until law and order was restored there was naturally a good deal of unrest all over the country.

The giving of self government to the two republics would in his opinion take place as soon as it was considered safe in the interests of Great Britain to do so. So far as the Transvaal was concerned it would at once become a loyal colony, for just as soon as the war is over there will be a majority of Outlanders in the country. That is not the case, however, with the Orange River Colony, which is essentially a pastoral country with a strong Dutch population. There is no doubt about it, Christian De Wet is a wonderful leader. He has shown magnificent ability as a leader, and, generally speaking, by his plucky resistance and clever escapes has won the admiration of the British army. I may be too sceptical of course, but I don't place much reliance on the stories which come to us stating that Boers have been killed in large numbers. I never saw large numbers of them killed, and I don't think the Boer is any braver or more anxious to be killed now than he was five months ago.

The charges of inefficiency made against British officers in South Africa, Mr. Churchill did not have any sympathy with at all. It was monstrous, in his opinion, to make such charges against men whose casualty list showed had gone bravely against the enemy and freely lost their lives in the performance of their duty. Reforms of course were necessary in the army, and he was pledged to his constituents to advocate them, but those were reforms in the system. So far as the officers and men of the army were concerned they had shown a devotion to duty which he did not think could be found in any other army in the world.

The bravery and endurance of the British soldiers never needed demonstration, but if it ever had the South African campaign would afford evidence of the fact that the British Tommy Atkins was the best fighting man the world had ever produced.

No eulogy from me is necessary of the Canadians who won the admiration of the army by their splendid work at Paardeberg. I can cheerfully bear testimony to their bravery and excellence, for I've seen them at work more than once, and heard their praises sung by General Buller, in whose brigade they were. They did their duty, and did it well, as also did the volunteers from every one of Britain's colonies. The fact that in her imperial policy Great Britain had the co-operation of her colonies had a great deal to do with driving the idea of intervention from the minds of European powers.

PROMINENT PUBLISHER DEAD.

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 24.—George W. Patterson, a prominent publisher and printer, known throughout Michigan and several other states, died at his home in Birmingham yesterday. He established the Western Star, the first daily paper published in Buffalo, N. Y., in 1834, also the Grand River Times, now the Grand Rapids, Mich., Democrat, in 1837. He was born in Farmington, N. Y., about 70 years ago.

STEAMER ASHORE.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Dec. 24.—The British steamer Antilla, from Nassau for New York, with a general cargo, went ashore this morning on Great Egg Harbor bar. Her passengers were safely landed. The crews of the life saving station have gone to her assistance. The Antilla is a vessel of 535 tons.

QUESTIONS CASEY ANSWERED.

A Canadian gentleman, Casey by name, was appointed to a government place, which technically had to be occupied by a lawyer, which Mr. Casey was not. The bench of the law society, however, undertook to obviate the technicality, and appointed one of their number as a special examiner to examine him as to his knowledge of the law.

"Well, Casey," said the examiner, "what do you know about law, anyway?"

"To tell the truth," replied the candidate, "I don't know a thing."

The examiner reported, stating in his affidavit, "that he had examined Mr. Casey as to his knowledge of the law, and to the best of his information and belief he had answered the questions he put to him correctly." The applicant was thereupon admitted to the bar.