

" April 1st.—At 11 a.m., in a heavy downpour of rain, I read the burial service over our gallant dead. We buried them at a well-defined spot in the garden of Boschbult Farm, just by the Hartefontein Road. Small crosses were placed at the head of each grave, and a rough carved tombstone inscribed 'To the memory of the Canadian Mounted Rifles who fell in action here on the 31st March,' surmounted by a maple leaf, was placed in the centre of the plot. At the foot of the stone a bottle enclosed a list of the dead and their position in the grave was placed. The situation of the graves is shown in the sketch herewith.

" About 12.30 p.m. the mounted men remaining with General Kitchener's Division appeared in sight, and as the enemy had apparently withdrawn through the night, the affair was over. A peculiar circumstance in this engagement was that the party of Mounted Infantry, referred to as stampeding, made its way to Drieknil, where General Kitchener had made his camp, a distance of twenty miles, and reported to him that our column had been cut up and captured. This report was given considerable credence, although not absolutely believed.

" The loss of so many of our best men is generally deplored by myself and the whole regiment, and the courage shown by them will always live in the memory of the regiment. The example shown by the wounded when brought into hospital is also worthy of special mention. The cheerful patience during a journey of twenty miles in the pouring rain, or while waiting in a Boer farm-house in the Boer lines occupied as a hospital—the women of which were not any too friendly—and with the younger Boers endeavoring to secure portions of their clothing, etc., being only prevented by the old burghers, deserves the highest praise. Both in fighting and suffering they showed equal pluck and spirit.