

Hot Work at Mafeking

Pierce Bombardment by the Boers - Enemy Capture the Trenches.

Reserve Squadron Retake the Positions - Burglers Head Gunner Killed.

The following dispatches are from the special correspondents of the London Daily Mail:

Mafeking, March 6 (Lobatsi, March 9).—For the sixth time the Boers changed the position of their siege gun on Friday night to its old emplacement on the southeast, and on Saturday they fired a record of thirty-six rounds right off it. It was splendid practice, but we killed the gunner, so they have not fired his gun since. A fresh lot of ammunition arrived this morning, and it probably is a fresh lot of gunners they will probably give us more trouble.

In the meantime everything was quiet, which the chairmen were the principal feature of the plan, which was submitted, Mr. Sorby on this was certain that it was, and that we had made a non-negotiable agreement. Consequently this meeting. You repeat that I have something and with this he that followed was who pointed out had been changed. It was absolutely mittee to invest- thorough manner. ed that the engi- not competent to in phases of the es on the other expert engineering as were compen- engineering com- not competent to the cost of the that in the first as far as the concerned, did not wall. Now, the without any allow- expense which at the mayor was , anyway. That did not choose to opposed to the ed that the com- competent to in- from an engineer- of the members experience—ha, and as a body capable of dealing of the scheme, on ensued, in the abertson submitted in, seconded by oted. "That this needed to make ost of the revet- to be built by showing how length of same, hors, and other are of opinion they have gained, such work, from the best works on ost of the river less than prob- at mentioned by certainly cost con- in its amended littee begs to call eral committee to has awarded his in the consequence valuable time has mitted, and, as by, are liable in tered and modi- ially protested and be considered be "giving them. The com- d Mr. Sorby to in that resolution that they had assed, Ald. Bry- after which the

committee on pre- into the Sorby weeks ago point- do not endorse the standpoints, the engineering did not engaged, and con- morning, invited, examining the invest- were appointed, Mayor Hayward, of the committee, an), Ald. Brydon, Mr. Sorby, present did not of a spirited the preliminary an exhibition of which the chair- were the principal ing of the minutes or a plan, which submitted, Mr. this was certain, Mr. Sorby on that it was, and "I have made a non-negotiable, ken. Consequently this meeting. You repeat that I have something and with this he that followed was who pointed out had been changed. It was absolutely mittee to invest- thorough manner. ed that the engi- not competent to in phases of the es on the other expert engineering as were compen- engineering com- not competent to the cost of the that in the first as far as the concerned, did not wall. Now, the without any allow- expense which at the mayor was , anyway. That did not choose to opposed to the ed that the com- competent to in- from an engineer- of the members experience—ha, and as a body capable of dealing of the scheme, on ensued, in the abertson submitted in, seconded by oted. "That this needed to make ost of the revet- to be built by showing how length of same, hors, and other are of opinion they have gained, such work, from the best works on ost of the river less than prob- at mentioned by certainly cost con- in its amended littee begs to call eral committee to has awarded his in the consequence valuable time has mitted, and, as by, are liable in tered and modi- ially protested and be considered be "giving them. The com- d Mr. Sorby to in that resolution that they had assed, Ald. Bry- after which the

RAILWAY. The meeting to- of the Grand the report of the Rivers Wilson, that he believed the Chicago-Grand out, though on- ders still dissen- tion, the presi- light rates, such one of the Penn- Vanderbilts be the tariff, not interests of New This was at- gement to him that able to compel pers were never and the smaller shippers were ob- a specialized pool- Portland division, would be recon- winter traffic, the Central Ver- satisfactory work. Haven was doing ago-Grand Trunk

ck headache and ter's Little Liver out truth. Small ment. Small bill, ...

bats), March 9).—Snyman declares to disband his native levies, alleging that we began with Linchwe at Derdepoort. This is incorrect, as Linchwe only attacked the Boers when he was informed that they were about to bombard his stand. The natives followed up the attack by crossing into the Transvaal, but the B. S. A. Police under Col. Holdsworth remained in the Protectorate, thus protesting against Linchwe's action.

With regard to the natives round Mafeking, the Boers began the war by looting the cattle and burning the villages, and even taking their insignificant properties at auction. The natives took refuge here, bringing in their antiquated rifles with which they have tried under white commanders to take revenge on their spoilers. The Barotses have merely defended their stand against their old enemies. The native question is considered important here.

SARAH WILSON.

Majuba Day. Mafeking, March 1 (via Plumer's Camp, March 5).—The siege has been prosecuted with renewed vigor since Snyman returned from the north.

Majuba anniversary, however, passed quietly. Although an attack or demonstration was confidently expected, the universal surprise they spent the day singing and praying, while at night loud wailing was heard in their lines.

Natives report that there is a great division in the Boer lager, some being anxious to make terms, others to fight it out till death. Snyman is especially furious at anti-English.

Colonel Baden-Powell has now notified the general that unless he disbands and unarms all the natives who are now filling all the Boer forward trenches he will no longer be responsible for restraining Linchwe in the Sequani district, and a time limit has been given to March 3rd.

There was a heavy bombardment yesterday, but no casualties.

The town begins to assume a very battered appearance. The health of the inhabitants is good, although there are some cases of diphtheria in the women's laager, to arrest the spread of which prompt measures have been taken. Six soup kitchens are now supplying the natives, and the men are thereby eked out to last three months instead of three weeks. Five horses are killed daily for this purpose.

SARAH WILSON.

SOUTH AFRICAN TREK OX. The Sort of Beast On Which Boers and British Rely for Transport.

The cable reports of the surrender of Cronje and his army to Lord Roberts told of the straits to which the Boers were reduced for food and their use of their trek oxen for this purpose according as the latter were killed by the British shells. The unwillingness of the Boers to kill their trek oxen for food, even though their provisions were practically exhausted, is easily accounted for, as the trek, or transport, ox is, despite mules and traction engines, the mainstay of South African transport.

Oxen are less expensive than mules. They are slow but sure, never doing more than three miles an hour, or twenty miles a day, which is considered a good trek. The Zulu ox is the best bred animal, but small and unserviceable when compared with the bastard Zulu or Natal ox, which thrives on both the "sour" veldt, or coast, grass and the "sweet," or up-country, veldt. Oxen, however, require very careful handling, and must on no account be over-driven; they must have at least six hours a day for grazing purposes. In the winter, which is coming on now, they can find a pecking on the parched veldt where a mule or a horse would fail.

They are naturally in a poor condition in the winter months of the spring arrival in September. They are very liable to lung sickness and red water, and whole spans sometimes perish from these fell diseases.

In the winter times they suffer terribly from the cold, and on no account should be waded in the rain during that season, for, among other things, the yokes, when wet, gives them sore necks, thus rendering them useless. The ox's best work is done at night time, and moonlight treks are the usual thing with "transport riders" after their teams have been grazing all day. They are never kept under the yoke for more than eight hours during the day, two stretches of four hours each. From 4 to 8 in the morning and from 8 to 10 at night are the favorite hours for trekking.

As to their baggage capacity, a "span" or team of eighteen oxen will easily draw a back wagon (weighing a little over a ton), loaded to 6,000 pounds, over the South African roads, many of which are little better than tracks across the veldt. Twenty miles a day for a heavy baggage column in such a country as South Africa is really good going.

One of the great merits of the ox wagon is the simplicity of its harness. The two beasts nearest the wagon draw from a pole (disselboom) on which the yoke is fastened, and the couples in front are attached to a wire or hide rope, known as the trek-touw, to which the yokes are fastened by rings, or thongs of hide. Any breakage or defect in such a tackle can easily be made good as it is free from the complexities of a set of harness. Prudent transport riders invariably "outspan" their team, if the "trek-touw" be of wire or chain, as whole spans have been destroyed by lightning through neglecting this precaution.

In the convoys to the troops not more than fifty wagons are dispatched at one time, and if the roads permit six and more are driven abreast. The second division usually starts in half an hour after the first. Nearly all the wagons in use in the present campaign are built locally, made of strong colonial woods, and constructed without springs. Only two men are required to manage each wagon—a driver and a "voortlooper" or leader of the team both of whom are nearly always trained Kafirs.

At present large numbers of these wagons are being hired from colonists at the rate of £3 to £4 per day, the Imperial government making good any losses that may occur in the span.

D. McNicoll was yesterday the recipient of numerous telegrams from all parts of the Canadian Pacific railway and from prominent railway men in the United States, congratulating him upon his appointment to the position of second vice-president and general manager of the C.P.R. system.

The military court at Sebastopol has closed the hearing of the great naval scandal, and has convicted 26 officers and civil servants as criminally derelicting the government in connection with the supply of coal and other commodities to the navy. The sentences will be pronounced to-day.

Provincial News.

SANJICHI. Married Christmas, the little daughter of the Rev. Granville Christmas, is recovering from a serious illness.

ROSSLAND. Recently there was stolen from the warehouse of the Jencks Machine Company, near the old C.P.R. depot, a lot of brass valves and a number of rubber buffers. It is suspected that boys stole the articles, which were valued at \$125.

PHONIX. Between \$150 and \$200 will be remitted to the Eastern treasurer of the Canadian Patriotic Fund as the result of the concert given here last week.

William Burns, provincial superintendent of schools, with headquarters at Nelson, was in Phoenix on a tour of inspection last week.

ARROWHEAD. Saturday afternoon R. S. Johnstone, of Arrowhead, started in a canoe for Thomson's Landing. He did not arrive at his destination, and on Monday the canoe was found floating about two miles down the Arm from Arrowhead, with Johnstone's coat still hanging from its side. Johnstone started, with no doubt upon the unseaworthy craft and caused the death of the occupant. He leaves a widow and several children.

CHILLIWACK. Frank Haley, the hero of the Mount Baker avalanche, has come down from the mines, reaching town on Monday. He is looking remarkably well, but is suffering from rheumatism, the result of exposure during the long night following the accident. He was unable to reach the protecting cabin till next day and lay out in the snow. He went down to Vancouver on Wednesday to spend a couple of weeks in the hospital.

GREENWOOD. R. L. Armit, of Cripple Creek, is here with a view of establishing sampling works. He appeared before the city council to discuss the proposition and received cordial support.

R. L. Armit, of Nelson, has been in the city looking over the district with a view of locating sampling works in Colorado, in which state there are any number in operation, and in speaking of the advantages of having a sampler located in the Boundary district he said: "Outside of the direct benefit derived by the city in having a plant located here, it is the means of helping to develop the whole district. By this I mean that there are many small properties lying idle for want of a market, close at hand, where the ore could be purchased for cash. This is one of the functions of a sampler. Irrespective of the character of the ore brought in, it is sampled and paid for spot cash. In this way we collect many different varieties of ore, which we then, in turn either sell, or as a local smelter or ship them out of the district. The mine owner of this section has not so far been able to deal with a local custom sampler. With regard to the method of sampling, we give the shipper either of two methods, viz., by the machine or the more favorite method of the 'quarter shovel.'"

KAMLOOPE. R. D. Pitt, an inmate of the Provincial Home for the last five years, passed away on Monday morning, aged 63 years. The deceased was well known to all work- ing men of Kamloops. He came here from Vancouver in 1895, where he was well known and carried on a real estate business. He was unfortunate enough to lose his leg in the big fire of that city in 1886. The deceased was a native of Ireland, and getting the gold fever when quite young he left his home for all work- ing gold fields, Australia. Later he emigrated to California when the great rush to that part of the world took place. The death occurred on Saturday night last of John McLean, a native of Long Point, Cape Breton, N.E., aged 30 years. After the arrival of No. 1, Constable Gladwin in going down the station platform saw the body of a man lying on the ground opposite the water tank, with his face cut and his skull badly fractured. He was at once taken to the hospital, but on arrival there was found to be quite dead. It is supposed that in getting off the train before it reached the station his clothing was caught, drawing him towards the rapidly moving train and causing the injuries sustained. The deceased had an order for \$20 on a lumber company, \$10.50 in cash and a bank book showing a balance of \$380 in his favor.

NEW WESTMINSTER. The Fraser River has claimed another victim, says the Columbian, and the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Crane, of Cariboo street, in this city, was saddened on Monday evening by the intelligence that Victor, their 5-year-old son, had been drowned while playing along the water front, at the foot of Fourteenth street. The circumstances of the unfortunate accident are not very well known, but, from the information received, it would seem that a couple of Victor's playmates had decided to go down to the river bank to spend the afternoon, and invited their comrade to join them, which he did. It was early in the afternoon when they started out on their fatal trip, and at once proceeded to the West- minister Packing Company's Cannery. After playing around for some time they got on to a salmon scow in front of the cannery premises. They had not been long on the scow long before a splash was heard, and the body of the unfortunate lad disappeared below the surface of the water, and the river flowed on as gently as ever. A search was started almost immediately after the frightened little fellows had told the tragic story of their playmate's disappearance, but the body was not recovered until late in the evening, when it was removed to the home of the bereaved parents. An inquest was held on Tuesday morning by Coroner Pittendrich, and a verdict of accidental death by drowning was returned.

ed. A rider was added severely censuring the Cannery Company allowing children to play on the scows in front of its premises.

The following very interesting extract is from a letter dated Paardeberg, February 23rd, received the other day by Mrs. Otway J. J. Wilkie, from her husband, who is one of New Westminster's gallant eight in the Royal Canadian Regi- ment: "We have just come in from an all night's march, and had been marching for a week, when we came across the Boers, and we waded the river, up to our breasts, and went right into the battle, with the Highlanders, Cornwalls, and other regiments, and charged with the Cornwalls, Highlanders, and some of ourselves, and the bullets were like hail. Men were shot all around me; the man who slept next me, in my tent, was killed; he was from Vancouver, and four from Victoria were killed. Lohman, of the Asylum, was shot in two or three places, and the major of the Brooklyn, of Westminister, was shot with three others, carrying a wounded man out of the field, when the wounded man was shot, and the other three were shot, but he was not touched. None of the West- minister or Kootenay men were hurt, only Lohman, however, who was in the charge. Thank God, we got through all right. The fighting has been going on ever since, night and day. Sunday we fought all day from morning till dark, burning hot at first, then pouring rain. I was glad when it got dark. I have just heard that Captain Armit (see con- tinued) has been taken to the hospital. Lohman is getting on well. All Westminister men are well."

A pretty wedding was solemnized on Wednesday morning at 10:30 o'clock in the Surrey Centre Episcopal church, when Miss Lillian Johnston, of Mud Bay, and David Elliott, of Delta, were united in holy matrimony by the Rev. William Bell. The bride was at- tended by her sister, Miss Elvye Johnston, and George McLeod supported the groom.

The death occurred on the south side of the river just above Brownville on Tuesday of Mrs. Dan, an Indian woman, aged about 40 years.

Messrs. Malins and Couthard, agents of the Westminster Packing Company, have written as follows to the editor of the Columbian, as regards the recent fatal accident near the company's cannery: "We have been asked by the owners of the Westminster Packing Company to make an explanation in regard to the drowning of little Victor Crane, in front of the company's cannery. The coroner's jury added a rider to their verdict 'severely censuring the cannery company for allowing children to play on the scows in front of the premises.' We are informed by Mr. Lee Soon, the manager of the company, that the cannery has a fence around it, and that the buildings are kept locked, so that the child could not have obtained access through the cannery. Moreover, had the watchman seen the child on the scow he would most certainly have removed him. The proprietors of the Westminster Packing Company feel much hurt that they should be blamed for loss of life, when they have taken all possible care to prevent accidents."

An accident occurred on Tuesday afternoon about 4 o'clock at Perdue & Haddon's logging camp, just above Bon Accord, on the south side of the river, as a result of which the victim, Peter Perdure, received internal injuries, and was probably mortally hurt. Mr. Perdure, it appears, was engaged in handling some logs, with a team, and had taken a "turn" on them. There was a considerable incline down which the logs had to travel, and Mr. Perdure caught his foot in some manner and was unable to get out of the way. He fell from the logs, which already started down the steep grade at a high rate of speed. They soon overtook their victim and hurled him to the ground, after which several logs passed over his body, inflicting injuries sufficient to crush the life out of any ordinary being. But, evidently, Peter's technique was responsible for saving his life.

NELSON. The force of men now engaged on the Balfour extension is over the 900 mark. By the end of this month En- gineer Proctor estimates that four miles of grade at the Balfour end and two miles this side of Nine-mile Point will be completed.

The first meeting of the licensed clergy and delegates from the diocese of Kootenay will be held in St. Saviour's church on Wednesday, May 30th, when the basis of agreement for the creation of the new diocese and the organizing of the synod will be ratified, and such other business transacted as may properly come before the primary synod of the diocese.

A quiet wedding took place on Monday afternoon at the residence of Mrs. S. E. Hodson, when Carver Lawrence was united in the bonds of matrimony to Hannah Union by Rev. John Robson, pastor of the Methodist church. The room is section foreman on the C.P.R., and has recently been transferred to the main line.

R. B. Porter, who is building the big C.P.R. slip at Proctor, returned on Monday night from Grand Forks. His firm, Porter Brothers, is building the big smelter dam at Grand Forks, and a rumor was circulated recently that work would be suspended owing to high water. Mr. Porter gives the rumor as unqualified denial, and remarks that the dam is sufficiently far advanced to be beyond the reach of high water. The firm has 60 men on the job.

A. R. Barrow, P.L.S., has completed the survey of the new ranges for the Nelson Rifle Association, and the work of clearing away the underbrush, etc., is almost finished, so that the range is ready for use as soon as the target is placed in position and the butts erected. Practice can be had at every range from 100 to 1,000 yards, the latter distance being available from a butt several feet high. The Nelson Rifles will use the range extensively.

Mrs. Hodgins, wife of Capt. Hodgins, has received two letters from the captain written since the battle of Paardeberg, one of which sets at naught all doubts as to the safety of all of the Nelson men.

Capt. W. W. West brought down a pack containing 500,000 feet of logs for the Nelson Saw & Planing Mills, Ltd., on Tuesday. The logs are from Bon-

ner's Ferry, and are the first installment of an order for 4,000,000 feet.

Miss Johnstone, sister of George Johnstone, customs collector, died at the Crickmay hospital on Tuesday afternoon. Her death was the result of a severe attack of la grippe, which a weakened constitution was unable to withstand.

A new propeller for the tug Hercules has arrived from the C.P.R. depot, and will be fitted to the tug as soon as she can spare the time necessary to tie up for the change. The new propeller is more powerful than the screw now in use.

The working painters of Nelson have so far experienced no difficulty in securing recognition of their new scale of wages and working hours. The scale went into effect on Monday, when the three largest employing firms agreed to give the demand of the union a working test. Formerly the painters worked ten hours for \$3, but this week they are working nine hours for \$3.40.

The forger who victimized Nelson merchants several months ago by forging the signature of J. A. Honeyman to checks for different amounts was in Nelson again last week and repeated his previous performance. Upon the occasion of his first visit he forged the signature of J. A. Honeyman of the local foundry to several checks, induced local merchants to cash them, and the forged was discovered got out of town. He evidently considers the people of Nelson easy game, for he not only returns to defraud them by forgeries, but even duplicates his performance by forging the same signature that he used upon the previous occasions.

So far, these forged checks have been reported to the police, all for small amounts. On both occasions the checks were cashed on Saturday night, and this time the thief netted nearly \$40. Judge Forin presided at a criminal sitting in the court house on Tuesday, disposing of three cases in which the defendants had applied for a speedy trial. The first case taken up was that of H. H. Bowden. After the charge, that of stealing \$600 from the Hall Mines smelter, was read, Bowden pleaded guilty. W. A. Gallier, the prisoner's counsel, made an eloquent appeal on his client's behalf, placing stress on the fact that Bowden's record was clean, and soliciting the clemency of the court. Judge Forin remarked briefly on the serious nature of the crime to which Bowden pleaded guilty and then imposed the sentence of two years' imprisonment in the penitentiary. Thomas Sanderson was then arraigned and pleaded not guilty. The charge against him was that on the day following the accident in February last on the Crow's Nest road, east of Creston, he stole a money packet containing \$150 intended for the agent at Creston. His honor decided that the evidence did not warrant a conviction and discharged the prisoner. Edward Clayburn pleaded not guilty to the charge of stealing a sum of money supposed to be about \$170 from a roomer at the Clarke hotel. The sentence of two years' imprisonment in the penitentiary was passed.

VANCOUVER. The grip has laid its hand on large numbers of the workers in the various factories and other industrial establishments of the city, and though many sufferers continue to work they do this with much difficulty. Not a few, however, have been and are being compelled to take a few days' rest at home.

George Cherrill was badly hurt on Monday afternoon, while stringing telephone wires on Pender street. He had a wire round his body and a team coming along pulled it down as it crossed the street. He fell from near the top of the pole, and struck the fool chest. He had several ribs broken and was badly bruised. He was taken to the City hospital.

Miss Eva Booth, daughter of Wm. Ballington Booth, the general of the Salvation Army, will be here on April 22nd, accompanied by Major and Mrs. Hargrave.

The vital statistics for the quarter ending March 31st as registered at the city hall are as follows: Births, 172; marriages, 52; deaths, 87. There were 88 cases up for hearing before the police magistrate during March.

Burglars early on Tuesday morning entered the blacksmithing establishment of Messrs. Duke & Wallace, on Herbert street. Four drills were stolen, three twist drills and one plain one. Miss J. Mollison, in charge of the Fraser Canyon House, the C.P.R. hotel at North Bend, yesterday sent down a cheque for \$12 to the mayor, the result of a local concert in behalf of the Canadian patriotic fund.

A meeting of delegates from New Westminster, Victoria, Vernon and Vancouver branch societies of the S.P.C.A. is being held in the municipal chambers to-day for the purpose of reorganizing the provincial society. Under the new constitution the officers of the society will be distributed amongst the various branches and arrangements completed for the opening of branches throughout the entire province.

RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT. In twenty years' time, it is safe to prophesy, railway development in Africa will have made enormous strides—and the many important branch lines to connect with the Cape-Cairo trunk line will have been constructed or be near completion. In the south the line from Johannesburg will have again that at Bulawayo; Bulawayo, again, will be connected with a line running right across country to Walvis Bay in German West Africa. In Central Africa, the trunk line will connect with German and British lines running to the east coast; and it is only reasonable to suppose that by that time a line or lines through Belgian territory will connect or be in close touch with the Cape-Cairo route. And that the trunk line will be a paying concern there is no reason to doubt. In the Rhodesian section already built the returns have advanced by leaps and bounds. The engineering difficulties of the Cape-to-Cairo line are considerable, but not insuperable, so that, with Mr. Rhodes at the head to "push the thing along," there is every prospect of the scheme, vast as it is, being successfully accomplished.—J. H. Knight, in the Engineering Magazine for April.

The Yukon Breaking Up

Winter Travel Ended—A Wonderfully Rich Find Reported on McQuesten Creek.

Peter Bernard's Attempt to Reach Siberia—Klondikers Going Across Behring.

The winter travel is over. The trail is becoming green again, and the snow is gradually becoming little streams which go to feed the Klondike. It is no longer safe, in view of the broken ice and the slushy river bed, to essay the journey in or out. Near Selkirk the river trail is very hazardous. Between Minto and Hootchikoo, the scene of the Yukon tragedies of this winter, the ice is breaking up. Outbound travellers are meeting hundreds of horses and dog teams bound in with stores, many of which will be unable to get in.

The Dawson arrivals give news of a very rich strike on the McQuesten. Early in March a man arrived in Dawson from Stewart River with report of a strike on McQuesten Creek, a tributary of Stewart River, the alleged rich find giving one hundred dollars to the man, and lying somewhere between the head waters of the Klondike and McQuesten Creek. A number of men have stamped from Stewart, and several parties are arranging to go from Dawson. The vicinity indicated has long been known to bear favorable gold-bearing signs. It is between two and three hundred miles from Dawson.

News from Cape Nome to January 1st was received by river trail from St. Michael. At that date everything was quiet, and all mining closed down. During December an attempt was made by a man named Peter Bernard to cross Behring Straits to the Siberian coast, but he found that it was not practicable, the ice not being sufficiently solid. The Indians advised him to wait until later in the season, and he returned to Nome, with the intention of making a second attempt in February, at which time the Indians declare the straits to be passable by trail.

Several parties in Dawson have recently applied to the American consulate here for passports into Russian territory, with the purpose, upon reaching Nome, of crossing to Siberia and trying their luck on the beech sands of that country. An impression exists here that Russia has recently thrown open the Siberian coast to American miners. The acting American consul in Dawson has written Washington asking for definite information on the subject.

The Skagway Alaska, in referring to the arrival of Mr. C. W. D. Clifford, M. P., who went up by the Tees, says: "Mr. Clifford is on his way to Atlin, where he will spend a few days, and return to Victoria via Skagway on an early date. His travelling companion, Capt. Irving, is also a representative of the district. Mr. Clifford thinks the election will take place some time in June, and that soon after a new government is organized the alien problem will be settled satisfactorily. He spoke of Joe Martin as being a strong supporter of the W. P. & Y. railroad people in their fight against Mike King, who is endeavoring to obtain a charter via Dyea, and drew attention to the fact that his present position was directly opposite to his previous declaration of principles in this line. Mr. Clifford was conservative in his remarks, but one is impressed with the fact that he realizes the damage that has been done Atlin by alien exclusion."

On March 14th fourteen double teams of the Red Line Transportation Company went in with fifty thousand pounds of supplies for the telegraph construction party. A crew of 12 carpenters went in to commence the erection of the Dominion government building to be used as a post office and customs house. The site has not been chosen. This work, and Captain Irving's railway work at Taku portage, and other things, will not begin until very busy. The Presbyterian hospital has been completed, and is now in operation. A 36 ounce nugget has been reported to have been found on Willow creek.

COMMANDERING. Commanding of private property on the part of the Boers began on the first day of the war, and has continued ever since. It has been practiced with all the greater gusto that the chief part of it has so far been done at our expense. It will be much less pleasant to the Boers by and by, when it has to be done in their own territory.

To drive them out of Natal and Cape Colony would be no less advantageous as a financial than as a military operation. They would then have brought home to them for the first time the terrible price of the struggle they have rushed into. Until they are driven back on their own soil they will not seriously feel the cost of the war. Hitherto, unfortunately, they have been able to live, to a great extent, on the enemy. It will be a very different thing for their war chest when they have to live on themselves.

Commanding of private property in the Boer vocabulary nowadays, there is immense scope for it in the republic, not on the field of war only, but wherever seizable property may happen to be. In the international code of the Boers private property has no existence. Everything that can be laid hold of, from a gold mine to a roadside store, is contraband of war. Before the campaign was a month old the Boers practically commanded the whole of the Rand gold field. It is not often that a belligerent has a chance to loot thirty million of gold-bearing reef at a stroke. But this fabulous prize has not yielded much to the enemy so far. Evidently they cannot work the mines to great advantage, for they have now started an alternative scheme to tax them from 20 to 40 per cent. on their gross output. About a dozen of the richest mines of the Rand are being worked under government supervision, ostensibly for account of the owners, but the gold passes, in the first instance, into the treasury, and the result is that the owners may not make place for years, if ever. Meanwhile, the government will have the use of the gold.—National Review.