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The most readable paper in Toronto these days is The Star. It is enterprising in its news departments and independent and entertaining editorially In its business management it is always keeping things moving. Just now it is offering free to new subscribing a magnificent portrait of the King printed in nine colors in the finest style of lithomine colors in the finest style of lithography. The offer is the most liberal of any paper. The Dally Star is sent to new subscribers until January 1st, 1903 and also a copy, of the magnifacent picture of the King for \$1:50, the price of the paper slone for a year. A copy of the pictures was sent to His Majesty the King, and acknowledgment from the King, and acknowledgment from the Lord Chamberlain expresses his appreciation of its cleverness and says the portrait was seen by His Majesty— the latter an unusual horse.

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ere Was No Pania Amena British-Officers Died Fighting.

and the Precipitons Side of the Selitary Repje on Which the British Were Encamped, and Opened Fire at TWO D'check in the Morning-British Leases Heavy-Six Officers and Fifty Men Killed.

London, Dec. 50.—In a despatch to the War Office Lord Kitchener gives further details of the action at Twe-fontein, on Dec. 24, when General De-wet rushed the camp of Colonel Fir-nian, who commanded four companies of inservial Yearnays. of Imperial Yeomanry. He says:

The column was encamped on a solitary konje, whose southern side was almost protiptious. The outposts on the notthern side were well pushed out. The position, which was naturally a strong one, had also been entrenched. The night was moonlit, but cloudy. Details have not been received, but it is gtated, that the Boers climbed the precipitous southern side and collected near the ton.

the top.

"At 2 o'clock in the morning, the Boers suddenly attacked the pickets on the summit, in superior numbers, Before the men in camp were able to get clear of the tents, the Boers rushed through, shooting them as they were coming out. The officers were shot while trying to stem the tide. Lieut. Harwich, who worked the pompom, was shot through the the pompom, was shot through the heart. There was no panic among our men. All did their best.

'Including the casualties, half the

Including the casualties, half the column is now at Elands River Bridge. The remainder are prisoners. Two wagon loads of dead and wounded Boers were removed from the scene of the action. The Boers humbered 1,200, and were under command of Dewet, who behaved well, leaving men to attend to the wounded.

wounded.

'The Imperial Light Horse, which was 14 miles distant, arrived at 6.40 a.m., and pursued the Boers, but without effect."

The War Office prints a list of the casualties in the fight at Twelontein. These include: Killed, 6 officers, 11 non-commissioned officers and 40 privates; severely wounded, 8 officers, and, missing, 5 officers. Successful British Raid.

Simultaneously with the above, the War Offices gave out a despatch from Lord Kitchener, chronicling a big success of the South African Constabulary, who made a raid on Both-aville and captured 36 Boers.

Prisoners Released. London, Dec. 30.-The War Office las received a despatch from Lord Kitchener, dated Johannesburg, say-ing that the British prisoners, captured when the Boors successfully rushed Col. Firman's camp at Twe-fontein, Dec. 24, have been liberated.

GARRISON'S BRAVE DEFENCE.

Hal to Figh! Boers to Obtain Water Every Night.

Cumassom, Dec. 28.—In Commandant Maritz's attack on Tontelbosch Kolk, the garrison suffered severely from thirst

The Boers had command of the water supply, and the garrison had to ter supply, and the garrison had to fight for water every night. The attack lasted six days and nights, and the fighting was stant and severe.

We lost three killed and fifteen slightly wounded out of twenty. The Boers admitted having four killed and twenty-five wounded.

and twenty-five wounded.

The enemy looted all the horses, nen's clothing and cash from the doop-holed houses. They also loot-ed Williston, taking even children's

A Private's Splendid Pluck.

London, Dec. 28.—The Victoria Cross is to be awarded, states Thursday night's Gazette, to Private W. Bees, of the 1st Derbyshire Regiment, for an act of conspicuous bra-very in South Africa. He was one of the six Maxim gin detachment, which had six men hit out of nice, at Moedwill on September Soth. Hearing his wounded comrades ask-ing for water, he went forward under a heavy fire to a spruit held by Boers about 500 yards ahead of the gun and brought back a kettle of

In going and returning he had to pass within a hundred yards of some rocks, also held by Boers, the kettle he was carrying being riddled by their bullets;

An Army of Sixty Thousand Men.

Liverpool, Dec. 23.—The Post says Gen. Lord Kitchener has informed the War Office that preparations must be made to keep an army of 60,000 men in South Africa for an indefinite period after peace has been established, and that a draft should now be sent out to be used as a nucleus for this garrison duty army.
Educating the Roer Children.

London, Dec. 28.—The Times publishes a letter from Pretoria on the subject of education in the Transvaal and Orange River Colonies. It was stated that at the beginning of the war that the Transvaal was educating 12,700 children, which number, was nearly equalled last month in the schools opened by the British, while in the Grange River Colony about 8,000 are being taught. The average attendance of pupils in the concentration camps is 70 per cent, and the present average in the Transvaal 75 per cent.

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