

added his Lordship. Lady Roberts has relatives living at Geelong (Vic.).

"Since the enemy smashed up Broadwood's column and captured the waterworks at Sanna's Post, cutting off the city supply, there has been an epidemic of sickness among the troops. The scarcity of water, the want of shelter of any kind from the heavy rain that has fallen intermittently for a couple of weeks, has led to an outbreak of enteric. Death has been busy in the ranks of the Australians. Corporal Harkus, of the Lancers, succumbed on April 4, after a short illness. He was one of the Aldershot contingent, and one of the best all-around men that our Lancer Regiment possessed. His comrades deplore the loss of a true soldier and a sterling good fellow.

ESCAPED BULLETS TO DIE IN HOSPITAL.

"He was with French's division at Koodoosrand and Paardeberg, took part in all the fierce fighting and trying marches that marked the cavalry advance eastward to Bloemfontein. He survived the bullets only to fall a victim to the fever. He died in the New South Wales Hospital. All that human care and skill could do was done for him by Major Fiaschi and his staff. Two days before Harkus died Major-General Hutton saw him, and the visit seemed to brighten him up considerably. Lieutenant Basche of the Mounted Infantry, also a victim to fever, was buried, the funeral being attended by General Hamilton, commanding the Mounted Infantry Division; Major-General Hutton, Colonel Knight, Captain Legge, Lieutenant Newman, and other N. S. W. officers. About a month ago, on the March across the Free State, Basche sustained a severe fall from his horse, owing to the animal putting its foot in a meercat hole. He was recovering from the injury when he was attacked by fever.

"Basche was a valued member of the N. S. W. Army Service Corps, and, if I remember rightly, was a clerk in the N. S. W. Treasury. Both he and Corporal Harkus are buried in the pretty little cemetery at the base of Monument Hill, where already many an Australian sleeps his last sleep."