

# The War in South Africa

## It is Reported From Bloemfontein That Gatacre Has Engaged the Boers.

### Burgers Planning to Outflank Buller in Natal—Force at Kroonstadt.

London, April 7.—The only news received from the front to-night came from Bloemfontein relating to an engagement with Gen. Gatacre at Reddersburg, which seems to have been held back by the censor.

It will be remembered that Lord Roberts reporting the unfortunate occurrence at Reddersburg said that General Gatacre had arrived there on the morning of April 4th. Hence he may have succeeded in engaging the Boers later in the day.

It is strange, however, that Gen. Gatacre's subsequent movements have not been mentioned in Lord Roberts's dispatches of the 4th which was dated the evening of April 6th.

In Natal.

It is reported from Ladysmith that the Boers are beginning to construe General Buller's inactivity as a sign of fear or inability to resume active operations. Hence they are showing much activity particularly around Biggarsburg and are said to be planning to outflank General Buller by an advance in force by way of Helpmanker. Since the plan is known it is not likely that the Boers will find Buller unprepared.

Boers at Kroonstadt.

The Boers state that the Colesberg and Stormberg commandos, numbering 6,000 men and ten guns have reached Kroonstadt.

Were Disappointed.

Speaking at an annexation meeting at Winberg on April 6th, former Premier Sir John Gordon Sprigg declared that he had been informed by a member of the Afrikaner Bond who had just returned from Pretoria that the executive of the Republic at the commencement of the war expected the active assistance of 40,000 colonials. He learned also of documents incriminating a number of leading colonials in machinery with the governments of the republics.

Boers as Fighters.

Mr. Chamberlain is reported to have said seriously: "I think we are dealing with better fighters as individuals than any regular soldiers of the continent. The Boers seem to me to have both caution and dash."

The Scarcity of Horses.

The disposition to find fault with the war office for not having anticipated the necessity for the enormous number of horses seems unjustified, for it is learned that before the dash to Kimberley and the destruction of horses which caused by the surrounding of Gen. Cronje, the war office wired to its agents all over the world, particularly in North and South America, giving them power of buying horses unlimited until further notice. The obstacles in the way of assembling and transporting the animals were such that horses bought a month ago can hardly reach Lord Roberts before June.

Cheques for Prisoners.

Bankers are transmitting gold or its equivalent regularly to the paying cheques of British officers who are held prisoners and the Standard Bank of Pretoria honors all such cheques. Therefore, as no limit is placed on the amount bought by the prisoners, they live in much comfort. In fact their messes are probably much better provided than are those of the officers at Bloemfontein. Some of the captives who have been there for months have regular services in Hamburg and London, which are bought by the prisoners, they live in much comfort. In fact their messes are probably much better provided than are those of the officers at Bloemfontein.

Reported Engagement.

Bloemfontein, April 4.—(Afternoon.)—General Gatacre had an engagement with the enemy at Reddersburg to-day. Details of the affair have not been obtained.

Contribution From Lloyds.

Winnipeg, April 7.—A cable from London says that the committee of Lloyds's patriotic fund have informed the Canadian high commissioner of their intention to make a substantial grant to the Canadian patriotic fund.

The secretary of the British fund for the Canadian contingents has received three large packages of warm clothing from the Princess Louise, which are being forwarded immediately to South Africa.

London, April 9.—The amazing activity of the Boers southeast and southwest of Bloemfontein continues, the Boer commandos seemingly going and coming throughout a wide region as they please, but taking good care not to throw themselves against bodies of the British.

Communication Cut Off.

The retirement of the Irish Rifles from Rouxville to Alwalwa leaves General Brabant without communication with the British forces. He has 2,000 to 3,000 colonials holding a fine desolate country, but he is apparently invested so far as London knows.

Nothing for Publication.

Telegraphic and railroad communication with Bloemfontein are kept up as usual, but nothing comes through for publication.

Cavalry at Bloemfontein.

Lord Roberts's last dispatch was dated April 6th, and the last official message bore date of April 7th. The last official message notes that the good spirits at Bloemfontein are continuing, and two fresh cavalry regiments, and Lord Roberts now has about 15,000 mounted men altogether.

In the Orange Free State the situation is complex with scanty material for forming a correct estimate of the condition of affairs and the afternoon papers, not being in the confidence of the war managers, are criticising the conduct of affairs as they see them.

## A FIGHT IMMINENT.

Maseru, April 7.—The Boers who were massed last week near Ladysmith to the number of 10,000, after seizing Thaba Nchu and the Modder River water works, broke into strong divisions and they are now raiding in the south of the Free State recouping the small towns which were evacuated by the British. The Boers' policy seems to be to make rapid movements with little transports, looting English storekeepers freely for provisions, and cutting the communications of the British forces.

Gen. Brabant's colonials are mostly capable of great striking power, and used to cross-country riding, and are able to deal roughly with the Boer commandos now roaming about the country.

A squadron of Brabant's Horse captured 400 rifles near Wepener. His outposts are reported to be in touch with the Boers and a fight is regarded as imminent.

Persistent reports are being circulated that the Boers are preparing to retake the British position at Wepener, and thus to secure entrance into Basutoland. Such an attempt will be resisted by the Basutoland government, which is believed to have made every preparation.

Meanwhile the approach of the Boers to Basutoland produces much excitement among the natives, necessitating the utmost vigilance on the part of the local officials.

## BOER FIRE SILENCED.

Warrenton, April 7.—Yesterday evening the British shelled Fourteen Streams, which was crossed by a force of Boers. This morning the Boers placed in position a big gun, which they fired ineffectively. A fusillade of Maxims followed at intervals throughout the day.

The British dropped kildite and shrapnel shells into the Boer position, finally silencing the enemy's fire and driving off the snipers.

## THIRST.

London, March 31.—Everybody remembers the famous picture of thirst, which portrays the gaunt, half starved lion in the midst of the desert lapping up the few remaining drops of moisture from an impoverished pool, but a correspondent in the Morning Post tells us that though the British soldier "has thirsted in the thirstiest corners of the globe," he admits the order to be a fresh experience.

Aden, India, Egypt, the Sudan, but here is something hotter; not drier, not dustier, but less endurable. Men who have lived in Kimberley, Johannesburg, Bloemfontein and Natal are only now while campaigning, acquiring the experience—the army with its incessant tramping and the ceaseless fog, and dust that hangs about its camps, and to that must be added the

Compulsory Life in the Sun, the sun at its hottest, driest, hours. The entire absence of shade, the parching section of the sand, which is chair and table.

Here, where when one knows by tired limb the weight of what one drinks, the thought of water flowing through pipes seems a dream of paradise and such water—water through which one could see—which left no mud at the bottom of the mug, and which did not stain what it was split on. One remembers that in England they analyze that kind of water.

At Ramdam there was a big pond, which was left of a moist dam. The water was very shallow, but the mud there was black and deep. One sank to the knees if one tried to walk, and so gently half in mud and half in brown sryup, and

Thanked God for Water.

Rose from it with the green leeches hanging about one's body like bits of seaweed, and with a sprinkling of other less known insects.

Horses looked askance at that pool, but the men drank of it greedily, and drank of it where the horses hoofs had churned it into a blackish green liquor, thick as soup.

Let everyone who turns to drink a water tap in England give a thought to those who are dropping buckets in South Africa, and be grateful for an exceeding privilege.

VIGNETTE FROM THE BATTLE-FIELD.

"Twenty yards to the left a man is lying pressed flat against the ground. He is very much the color of the ground, and occasional whiffs of dust over him have aided the disguise. There are little tufts of withered scrub which help to hide him though but a few inches high. The sun has been blazing on his back the whole day, but for seven hours and the veiled wavers confusedly in the glare of heat.

"The man on the left feels gingerly for the tin bottle which lies under his left elbow. His fingers spread over its felt covering, and give it a gentle shake. The shake is repeated, and he begins to draw the bottle slowly under him, keeping his body rigidly stiff. The job is a long one because the bottle strap catches in his accoutrements and

He Dare Not Move

to free it. When he has it at least beneath him he begins to turn over, as slowly as he done all else. He lifts his foot a few inches to balance himself, and the next instant there is a spot dust from the sand beside him, not much more than an arm's length away. He keeps his eyes on the mark the bullet has made and remains for some moments as if it had turned him to stone, then, with a more laborious patience he resumes his movement, till at last he is on his back and has the bottle above him.

"It only holds a few drops, but he thought he had drained even them an hour ago, and his tongue is like a piece

## Northern Railway

### Debate in the Dominion House on the Comox and Cape Scott Bill.

Ottawa, April 9.—There was a lengthy debate in the House this afternoon on the Comox and Cape Scott Railway Bill, of which A. Morrison has charge. He moved an amendment that the road start at Wellington, to run on to Cape Scott, instead of at Comox district, as the bill stated. It was through a mistake that the bill did not include this. The lawyer who framed the bill should have included it, and in this way direct railway communication would be had from Victoria all along Vancouver Island to Cape Scott, at the extreme north. Between Comox and Wellington there was a distance of 90 miles, which would have no railway connection.

Mr. Morrison did not believe so. Mr. McInnes read from the statute of 1888 that the Esquimalt and Nanaimo railway could extend from Nanaimo to Comox. Mr. Morrison—But not from Wellington. Mr. Morrison said he would let the bill go through as it stood.

Mr. McInnes then moved that a clause be inserted in the bill to prevent the employment of Chinese on the railway at a penalty of \$5 per day for each day any Chinese person was employed. He said that since 1888 such clauses were being passed by the legislature of British Columbia. The reason why Mr. Dunsmeur came to Ottawa for this charter was to evade this clause.

Mr. Morrison was as much opposed to Chinese being admitted into Canada as Mr. McInnes, but there was no use of playing with the question. It was not constitutional to insert such a clause. If British Columbia put them in, Ottawa would have to throw them out. If Ottawa did not, the result would be the same, as such legislation was ultra vires. The Dominion government was to bring down a bill this session dealing with the whole question of Chinese, and that was the proper time to deal with the matter. The Dominion could legislate against one man in favor of another on the same subject. He never met the Dunsmeurs and cared less about them, but that was not the point.

The debate is being continued. Later—Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the government was going to deal with the Chinese question this session.

The House divided on the motion of Mr. McInnes, when it was lost by 21 for, 33 against, majority against, 22.

ARRESTED IN LONDON.

London, April 8.—Nathan Moscher, who was arrested and detained here charged with forging notes in New York city and securing \$20,000 on them, was committed for extradition in the Bow street police court to-day.

INCREASING THE SQUADRON.

(Associated Press.)

Kingston, Jamaica, April 9.—News has been received here that the British North American and West India squadrons are to be increased by a battleship, two cruisers and several torpedo boats.

FRENCH DUELLIST WOUNDED.

(Associated Press.)

Paris, April 7.—A duel between Comte de Dion and M. de Saint Alery, the respective seconds of Comte de Lubersac and Baron Edouard de Rothschild in their quarrel, was fought this morning in the Hippodrome at Neuilly. Saint Alery was slightly wounded. The duel then stopped.

THE NEW NILE.

Greatest Engineering Feat the World Has Ever Seen.

"When the Nile reservoirs planned by the great Willcocks were first made known to the world, and it was found that he, although offering six or seven sites for his cyclopean designs, really only highly recommended one, the construction of which would wipe out the island of Philae, the latest spot on the Nile, there was a universal howl of opposition. This got to such a height that Sir W. Garstin and his engineers may have felt a grim kind of relief when they found that the French would allow them no money from the Cairo to realize their schemes for starting the blessed water, and they had for a time to abandon the whole affair. So when, one fine morning, Mr. John Alder, Sir Benjamin Baker, and their friends, unexpectedly called at the office of works in Cairo, and offered to make any amount of Dams, Canals and Locks,

wherever they pleased, for no present cash payment, in accepting their wonderful offer the government cut down the level of the great reservoir by nearly one-half, Willcocks wanted to store up 120 feet of water. Sir Benjamin Baker was told to content himself with twenty metres (about sixty-five feet) of Nile storage, and so the artists and the tourists and the general opponents to the drowning of Philae were appeased, or at least silenced, and the greatest engineering work that the world has ever seen was quietly started, and within a year 20,000 men were employed at Assouan and at the supplemental dam of Assouat.

"When the dam is completed and at its high level, Philae will have its temple pylons, and a few of the higher ruins standing out of the water, just to mark where its ancient beauties were; but all its loveliness, its verdure, its palms, several of its temples, its storied walls, and the Nilometer, its colonnades, its Roman quay, will disappear beneath the waters. An island will be lost, but

A Continent Will Be Saved!

For my part, I would rather they had made Willcocks's cyclopean granite barrier of about a hundred and fifty feet (where

## Provincial News.

### GRAND FORKS.

The charge of defamatory libel preferred against Editor Nesbit, of the Columbia Review, by Mayor Neil McCullum, of Columbia, has been withdrawn, the complainant paying all the costs.

### COMOX.

(Special Correspondence of the Times.)

Several Japanese, recently naturalized at Union, contemplate making an effort to have their names on the voters' list, and in the event of being refused (as provided in the act), will, it is stated, endeavor to have the constitutionality of the act tested.

Augusto Refinengo was almost instantly killed by a fall of the roof at No. 4 on Monday morning. Mrs. Bartison, of Cumberland, succumbed to an illness, of nearly two years on Thursday morning.

### NEW WESTMINSTER.

The marriage of D. A. Shiles, the popular manager of the New Westminster division of the British Columbia Electric Railway, and Miss Jennie Leigh McNeill, of Vancouver, was solemnized on Thursday evening by the Rev. J. G. Matthews. The interesting ceremony was performed at the residence of Mrs. McNeill, 429 Harris street, in the presence of a few intimate friends. Miss Smythe, also of the Terminal City, acted as bridesmaid, while the groom was supported by Mr. D. A. McKinnon.

### KASLO.

A young miner named Talty, aged about 30, died at the Ivanhoe on Friday, March 30th. He worked at the quarry near here for about eight months and stayed in town for a short time on his way to the mine.

Two feet from death, Joseph Carleton and Gus Schilling had a close call up the South Fork recently. They were working on the Champion when a snowslide came down and nearly carried them down the hill in its deadly embrace. Mr. Carleton told the Kootenian of his remarkable experience. He said: "We had a very narrow escape just before I came down. It was after we had started the Champion tunnel. It was started on the edge of a snowslide. We thought the snow had mostly come down. We had only got in five or six feet of an open cut when the slide came down, and we had only a small projection over our head. In this cut, to shield us from the slide, it was a very narrow escape. The slide took two sleighs right out of the face of the cut where they were standing up. The snow came within two feet of where we were crouched. It was a terrific slide. But for the future everything is safe."

### VANCOUVER.

Mrs. W. J. Barker, wife of Ald. Barker of this city, passed away at the city hospital on Friday, after a brief illness. The deceased lady was 58 years of age and had resided in Vancouver since very shortly after the city was founded. A meeting was held in the council chamber on Friday for the purpose of reorganizing the Provincial Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Representatives were present from the branch societies as follows: Messrs. A. J. Dallan, W. F. Best and P. B. Kito, Victoria; J. C. Brown, C. C. Fisher and J. H. Shirley, New Westminster; Mayor Garden, Rev. J. Reid, Jr., Dr. Gibbons and C. J. South, Vancouver. On behalf of the city, Mayor Garden expressed a hearty welcome to the delegates. Upon the meeting getting down to business, Mr. J. C. Brown was elected chairman and Mr. J. H. Shirley, secretary. The constitution was then taken up and amended and revised, after which the officers were elected as follows: President, J. C. Brown, New Westminster; vice-presidents, Mayor Garden, Vancouver; A. J. Dallan, Victoria; secretary, C. J. South, treasurer, J. H. Shirley, New Westminster.

### BARON INCHQUIN DEAD.

(Associated Press.)

London, April 9.—Baron Inchiquin (Edward Douglas-Scott-Craig), who was born in 1838, died at his residence in London on Friday.

### MAJOR-GEN. ANDREW WAUCHOPE, OF NIDDRIE.

Pall Mall Magazine.

The land is sheeted fair, and a white cloud fills the air. An' black the sky w' ne'er a break see dreary, oh! An' they tell us he's a' baw'n, who was stark to death, dare! An' Scotland's heart is sad an' sore, an' weary, oh! For Andy, Andy Wauchope, o' Niddrie, oh!

In Ashantee he bled; and Egypt-land was red. W' the noble flood that Scotland are renders to the right; And he kneeled on Sudan sand when the funeral prayer was said, and for the hero whar he's followed of the sunbline to the light. O' heaven—Andy Wauchope, o' Niddrie, oh!

When he and Gordon stand 'yond the river; hand in hand— Will Scotland thrill as thrills the world when angels greet? Can ye show a finer touch 'mid a nation's hero-band— When the hero of Khartoum and the Laird o' Niddrie meet. 'Yond the river? Andy Wauchope, o' Niddrie, oh!

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By Modder's stream we laid the Heland bold brigado, At heed we laid him who shall gude through death to victory; An' the war-whoop's lament told the sacrifice was made— And peace shall come to Africa; her future shall be free; Through your deatin'; Andy Wauchope, o' Niddrie, oh!

Ottawa, March yesterday afternoon on the budget, a few minutes left for Quebec speech on which the address in which the connection with which he described the Canadian dealers. He made before the argument that he meant more the German and gained by the whole point of a return for British government scheme of in-grade such as w'd of the whole of that this possibility; he eay that we might not for Sir Wm the boon when of the Jubilee. He one the leader repeated a score three sections of Prime Minister tion of a return made by the Charles's objecti of 1897 was thad to afford Canada nce in her mar of the last cent between Great Sir Charles exp the course of the The leader of the claimed for the of the last cent industry in Ca the boon was th had had inaugura Sir Charles of following on the trade; "That th that a system of between Great the colonies w increased product between, these thus promote an the empire, and from a policy shou satisfactory." The Hon. The Minister of speech on which a good deal of which included a show the success Mr. Paterson's expenditure, suc truly larger d volved the inter Canadian people being obtained; collected in out the importers g It was not to growing; that in the expenditure beyond, doubt party had been customs rates of done. Mr. Post taxation rate 18,500,000, say in 1890, so th putation amount free items on th ed out that fre United States rrown to no gr truly enabled th stock market t changes of a \$128,885, on ba vanized iron, tors and son of the people at ment; that fe were as follow which the sav \$85,000, Indiai tors, and so o printed matter Great Britain \$52,000, say ware and chin customs duty tations of last revised was \$ Mr. Paterson from the tone Conservativ's foreficial thrit It was just a know the "facte ters stood. T speech was fu interest" and o of members th adjournment by Mr. Clark on Tuesday. IN The Senate's the expenses o to South Afril ing. The inst senting voice; Ottawa, Ap Interesting pe the House of tion and stat "Banquet" in Banquet. The members? que of the day's Lieut.-Col.

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### Mr. Bostock's Speech in British Parliament.

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### BUGLAR CONFESSES.

(Special to the Times.)

Nanaimo, April 6.—Few robberies occur in this city, and when they do occur the culprits are soon captured. On Monday evening a store room here was entered and several sacks of flour and other articles were carried away, and before 9 o'clock the next morning the burglar was under arrest and confessed his crime.

### RAILWAY TRAINS WRECKED.

(Associated Press.)

Dallas, Texas, April 7.—The south-bound express on the International and Great Northern railway was wrecked this morning near McNeill. Nothing more is known as wire communications are interrupted.

Buffalo, N.Y., April 7.—Buffalo Creek engine No. 9, and a Buffalo Rochester and Pittsburg work train collided on the track of the Buffalo Creek road at the Preat street crossing this morning. Four workmen were more or less seriously hurt, but no lives lost.

### GERMAN RULE IN SAMOA.

(Associated Press.)

Chicago, April 7.—A special to the Chicago Record from Apia, Samoa, dated March 21st, says the Imperial German flag was raised, and undisputed German rule over the islands of Upou, Manoa, Apia and Lavey began on the 1st. The ceremony took place at Manua, in front of the governor's house. Fully 5,000 natives, besides nearly all foreign residents, were present.

### PLAGUE IN AUSTRALIA.

(Associated Press.)

Perth, Western Australia, April 9.—A man has died from the bubonic plague at Fremantle.

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### He Can't Believe It.

He's blowing with all his might and can barely stir the recording hand from zero. There's many a big, healthy looking man who is weak in the lungs. Probably half are two-thirds of his lung surface barely keeps the contact of oxygen. He's the kind, man, who, when a cough attacks him, goes galloping down the road toward consumption. Many such a man has found strength and healing for weak lungs and tissues saturated by coughing, and drained by hemorrhages, in the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. The healing power of this medicine in pulmonary diseases seems little short of marvelous at times, so extreme are the conditions which it cures. The "Discovery" contains no alcohol, and no narcotics.

"Where I started to take your 'Golden Medical Discovery,' writes Mr. A. F. Newberry, of New York, N. Y., Box 147, 'I had a regular consumptive cough, of which I was afraid, and my condition was such that I was unable to carry it. I was losing weight rapidly, my face pale and had no appetite whatever. Now my condition is changed entirely. I do not cough at all, have gained eight pounds in weight, have recovered my healthy color, and my appetite is enormous. I can recommend your medicine to everybody who may be in need of the same.'

Dr. Pierce's Peppermint Cure constipation.