## THE DARK PHASE OF THE WAR

Fight at Itala.

Boers Shot Down British Soldiers After They Had Thrown Down Their Arms.

W. Eyers, of B company, 5th division
M. I., South Africa, to Mr. John Harvey, of Melbourne, Ont., describes in simple yet graphic language the battle of Itala, one of the fiercest conflicts hoped, drawing to a close. The letter me coming, at once came to my assistis dated Oct. 20, and was written at rospect Post, Zululand. It reads as told him my tale of what had taken

"At about 11 p.m. on the night of the 25th September, information reached camp that the Boers had left a place called Bobanango, and were marching towards our camp, which lay about eight miles from the abovenamed place. The camp was situated at the bottom of the great Itala mountain; in and around were several patches of trees, which proved a great cover for a lot of our men when fighting took place. As soon as Major Chapman received the news of the Boers' advance, he at once ordered between 80 and 100 of us to saddle up and proceed at once to the great Itala, the officers in command of us being Lieut. Kane and Lieut Lefroy; the remainder of the men who were left in camp manned the trenches surrounding it. We meanwhile made our way on to the mountain, and proceeded about one mile in front of the outpost; here we were ordered to dismount and peg our horses down. This being done, our officer went and picked our places, which we were to hold at all cost. We now having taken up our positions, each one was watching and waiting for the enemy; however, we did not have long to wait before the Boer scouts came in sight, and came right up to our advanced post. The intention of this post was to let them pass through; thus, having them between two of our posts, we should have been able to capture them without firing a shot. Alas! it was not to be, for a man of ours on the left, whose name I have forgotten, who was, I afterwards heard, wounded, let go at them; this, of course, caused the whole of the line to open fire, killing the whole of their advance party. Thus we showed up the whole of our the whole of the course the course of the course position, and the main body of the Boers, who were only a few hundred Then the fire started—the like I never heard before, nor do I wish to do so again. It was as if hell had been opened up, and that it was going to swallow us all. To make things worse and the more uncomfortable for us, the enemy were using nothing but EXPLOSIVE BULLETS.

"They made us shiver, for as they struck in front and to right and left of us, they exploded, sending bits of all sorts into our faces and around us. On, on they come, by hundreds on all sides, their men falling fast, as well as our own. At last our small, thin line began to fall back, but not before Lieut. Kane and Lieut. Lefroy had been wounded, besides several of our men; Lieut. Kane shortly after died of his wounds, as did also a few of the men. Seeing all my comrades falling back in confusion, that no one seemed to take charge, and that to run away meant instant death, I at once called on my comrades to face the foe and make one more final effort to stand; this I am very pleased to say them did, and at once we open-ed our magazine fire, moving them down, some 40 of them receiving the little bit of cold steel. In another minute we were done, for they came up from our rear; thus we were overpowered. The most of our men threw up their arms at once, but the Boers took but little heed of this, and still kept up the fire, killing several and wounding a great many others. Two of them I shot through the back for shooting my chum AFTER HE HAD HIS HANDS UP.

"It was a most lucky thing for me that I had a slouch hat on, otherwise I should have been killed outright, for they took me to be one of their own number, therefore they did not shoot me, nor even speak; had they done so I should have been lost. I might say that from the time the firing commenced to the time it ended did not take 40 minutes, and the advance post was lost and the Boers had full possession of the Greater Itala. Being now in amongst Boers and Britons, I saw that I was in danger in case one of my own comrades should speak to me; therefore I at once made up my mind to escape, if possible, and to get into camp. The Boers being all around me, I decided to lay down among the rocks as if dead; meanwhile, I was watching and waiting for an opportunity to get through I could saw that I was in danger in case one an opportunity to get through. I could see and hear all that was going on, especially as the greatest portion were talking our own language. Some were taking the clothes off our wounded, while the others were taking them from the prisoners. All this I saw, thinking at the same time that should they discover me I should be the next; but, thank God, it was not to be! At last I saw an opening, and at once took it; but I had not gone far before some of them spotted me and at once fired,

but I am pleased to say THEIR SHOTS WENT WIDE, and before they could fire again I had fallen down into a deep donga. How long I had been laying there I cannot say, for when I came to myself again I found it was day break, and that the Boers were still attacking our camp. I then made my way through the donga, keeping well under cover, and tried to reach camp, but I found this Impossible, as the enemy were all around it. After having a drink of water I made up my mind to turn back again; this I did, but took a different donga. I had not gone far before I came upon three Zulus, one of whom could speak a little English, so I asked him what he was doing and where he was going. He told me in the best manner that he was escaping from the camp, as the Boers were shooting all the natives down. He also said that the Boers were on the hills above us, watching that no one escaped from the camp. I now was in

a proper stew, for I knew that if I was seen they would kill me. I therefore sat down and thought the matter over as to what was best for me to do. After several minutes I decided I get through or die in the attempt, To I at once reloaded my magazine and started, following the three netwes the whole way, and keeping myself well under cover. Donga after donga we went through, and after about an hour and a half we had got through the Boers and were upon the hill of the Little Itala. This hill is Craphic Description of Its situated almost directly opposite the Great Itala, therefore I was now in a position from which I could see all that was going on, so I sat down, and after thanking God for his goodness towards me, I directed my attention A Canadian Soldier Writes of the rounded it. I could see the

DEAD and wounded, while the others were still attacking the camp; but at every rush they made they were driven back again. After watching this sight for about half an hour, the natives noticed that some Boers were coming up towards us; therefore we had to run for it as fast as we could go, keeping on the native track across the country The following letter, written by Pte. into Nkandhla. When about a mile the arms, while the other carried my rifle. Thus, with their help, I was able to reach the above-named place. in the long struggle now, it is to be The magistrate of the district, seeing ance and helped me to his house, and place at Itala, and that the Boers were still attacking the little camp. He at 2 AFRICAN LETTER ... 6 6.... once sent off a messenger to Eshowe to break the news to them of what had taken place. Meanwhile, the people of the place packed up a few of their things and made for the bush, which lay about ten miles distant and on the road to Eshowe. After I had rested some twenty minutes the magistrate got two fresh natives to help me up to the fort. This was situated on top of a great hill, and overlooked the little place. Upon reaching the fort I found Lieut. Maxwell, of the Natal Police, a sergeant of the same corps, and some 40 Nonquai or Zulu police. After being in the fort about one hour, one of the native scouts came in and reported that some 700 Boers were making for this place as fast as their horses could carry them. We did not long have to wait before we could see their advance party on the hills to our right front, and then appeared the remainder of

not only shet, but they EVEN DISEMBOWELED THEM. Their poor bodies were discovered the following morning on the main road leading into Nkandhla. Lieut. Max-weil, seeing the Boers on the hills in front, right and left, decided to evacuate the fort and make at once for the bush, sending me on in front of them, and telling me that he would overtake me, while he himself and his men remained behind to bury the ammunition and a few stores. On, on, I went, keeping to the road the whole way until I reached a mission station; here I came across a few people from the place I had left, and after having been given something to eat and drink, I explained to them how things stood, yards distant, were about to form and make their plan of attack; this they decided to stop the night and watch did, and were not long about it—I should think about fifteen minutes. and yet no signs of them, so it was decided to make a move once more for the bush, which was only now two miles distant. However, we had hardly started before we could hear a horse coming towards us from our rear, so we halted until it came in sight, and we then saw that it was our native scout. When he came up to us he took from his pocket a letter, which was opened at once and read to us. It stated that the

BOERS HAD BEEN DRIVEN BACK after nineteen hours fighting, and that Major Chapman had retired to our old camping ground, Nkandhla. He also asked us to come back and rejoin him as soon as possible. This we did, but owing to the remainder of the party having gone on to the bush the night before, the native scout was sent on to them with the good news we had received. On my reaching camp I found that the troops were resting themselves, they being thoroughly worn out, especially as the greatest number of them had to walk, their horses all being shot down. I then went and found some of my own men, and then laid myself down to rest as After resting a few hours I got up with the others, and only seeing three men and one lance-corporal, I asked where the remainder of my comrades were. The answer was that only fifteen had escaped out of 60. I at once wanted to know what had become of the few remaining, and was told that they were left to bury our dead and see to the wounded at Itala. After having a little to eat and drink we settled down for the night, but not to sleep, for it was impossible; so we lighted our pipes and smoked the greatest part of the night, and were very glad when daylight came, so that we could get about. However, after we had breakfast, I heard that some

of our WOUNDED WERE COMING IN, so I went to see Major Chapman, and told him that I was in possession of a nursing certificate, and that if I could be of any service to my poor wounded comrades I would only be too pleased to help them. Major Chap-man thanked me, and sent me off at once to assist them. After the wound-

ed had been there about three weeks they had improved, and are now going down country to the hospitals. Where they were they could not get the proper treatment, there being no nursing staff to do the work for them. I might say that our losses were very heavy, there being one officer and 22 men killed, and 67 men wounded; 37 were taken prisoners, all of whom were released after them Boers had taken everything from them."

### THE MANITOBA LIQUOR LAW.

BOERS CARRYING AWAY THEIR Interview With Fremier Roblin at Montreal.

> Goldwin Smith Says a Compulsory Law Would Need Not Merely Passive Submission, But Active Co-operation.

Montreal, Dec. 6.-Hon. R. P. Roblin, premier of Manitoba, arrived at the Windsor yesterday, accompanied by Hon. Mr. Rogers, minister of public works. In an interview, Mr. Roblin discussed the recent decision by the Privy Council in the matter of the sale of liquor in Manitoba. Mr. Rob-

lin said: "I had only been able to read a brief telegraphic synopsis of the judgment before I left Winnipeg for the east, but since starting I have studied the whole text. To my mind the interpretation of the judgment is simply that the province is absolute as regards the sale of liquor within its confines. If we had brewers or distillers in the Province of Manitoba, which we have not, this ruling would prevent them from making any sale, either by wholesale or retail, of their products within the boundaries of the province. However, this does not prevent the importation of liquor from outside into Manitoba.' "Can liquor, then, be brought within

the province?"
"Yes, for if a resident in the province wishes, for instance, to get a case of liquor, he goes outside the province, say to Rat Portage, and purchases his supplies there. He can then, having done this, take his liquor into the province to his own home and consume it there.

their force. On their way they fell across three of our scouts; these they "What will the action of the gov-ernment be as regards this decision?" "That I cannot tell. The ministry has decided upon absolutely nothing as yet. The full text has not, so far, come before the government. We will carefully consider the matter, how-ever, but absolutely no stand has as yet been taken as regards this ques-

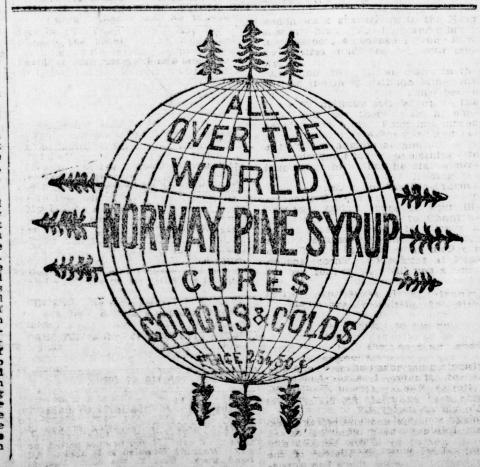
"There is no doubt, however, but that the government will introduce some legislation on the lines laid down in the Privy Council's decision?"

"Probably, but of that I cannot speak definitely at present." GOLDWIN SMITH'S VIEWS.

Goldwin Smith, writing in The Weekly Sun, says: It is surmised that the Ontario Government proposes to deal with prohibition by a measure combining an Act of Parliament with a plebiscite. The prohibitory act, it of war of all nations observing these is said, will be passed, but till it shall rules, on terms of entire equality so have been sanctioned by a plebiscite that there shall be no discrimination its operation will be suspended. This against any such nation, or its citiseems a strange device, but the dilem-ma of the government is not common ditions or charges of traffic or other-A plebiscite has at all events the advantage of taking a moral and social question out of political entanglements and the tricks of the party aded, nor shall any right of war be ments and the tricks of the party game. One stipulation, however, is necessary. Laws of this kind, interfering with private habits, and treating as criminal practices what are not commonly so regarded, confessedly need for their execution not merely the passive submission, but the active co-operation of the community The majority required to bring the prohibitory act into opera-tion ought, therefore, to be not only a majority of those who vote, but a majority of the whole constituency. Nothing less will set the question at Abstention from the polls indicates, if not dissent, unreadiness to co-operate actively in the enforcement of the act. There must also be a limit to the time within which the ratification of the act shall take place. It will not do to have an embryo law hanging over our heads forever.

\$2,250,256,230 IN CIRCULATION. Washington, Dec. 6.-The amount of money in circulation in the United States has increased by about \$92,000,-000 during the last year. Gold and bullion in the treasury on Dec. 1, \$1, 171,839,976. Total money in treasury, \$2,539,351,896, as against \$2,543,597,491 a month ago. There is more money in circulation now than ever before, the total amount being \$2,250.256.230, an increase of \$4,000,000 in the last month. The average per capita circulation for all of the people of the United States is now \$28 78.

ADVANCE IN PRICE OF PAPER. Toronto, Dec. 6.—The Canadian Paper Makers' Association met yesterday and practically decided on an advance of 1/40 practically decided on an advance of her be in the price of news print. The price of pulp has gone up about \$5 per ton in the past few weeks, and coal is unusually dear, making production expensive. Low water in the rivers in Quebec is the cause of the high price of pulp, the mills finding difficulty in getting their supplies of pulp wood their supplies of pulp wood.



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### THE NEW TREATY

Text of the Hay-Pauncefete Convention Now Before the United States Senate.

Washington, Dec. 7 .- The new Hay-Paunceforte treaty, providing for the construction of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama, now before Senate provides for supercession of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, construction of "a ship canal to connect the Atlantic and Pacific" by any route by the United States at its own expense, to be neutralized under Suez canal rules, as follows:

committed within it. The United States, however, shall be at liberty to maintain such military police along the canal as may be necessary to protect it against lawlessness and dis-

order.
"3. Vessels of war of a belligerent shall not revictual nor take any stores in the canal except so far as may be strictly necessary, and the transit of such vessels through the canal shall be effected with the least possible delay in accordance with the regulations in force and with only such intermis-sion as may result from the necessities of the service. Prizes shall be in all respects subject to the same rules as vessels of war of the belligerents. "4. No belligerent shall embark or disembark troops, munitions of war

or warlike materials in the canal except in case of accidental hinderance of the transit, and in such case the transit shall be resumed with all possible dispatch. The provisions of this article

shall apply to waters adjacent to the canal within three marine miles of either end. Vessels of war of a belligerent shall not remain in such waters longer than 24 hours at any one time, except in case of distress, and in such case shall depart as soon as possible; but a vessel of war of one belligerent shall not depart vithin 24 hours of the departure of a vessel of war of the other belligerent. "6. The plant, establishments, build-

ings and all works necessary to the construction, maintenance and operation of the canal shall be deemed to be parts therof for the purposes this treaty, and in time of war as in time of peace, shall enjoy complete immunity from attack or injury by belligerents, and from acts calculated to impair their usefulness as part of

"Article IV. It is agreed that no change of territorial sovereignty or of international relations of the country or countries traversed by the before mentioned canal shall affect the general principle of neutralization or the obligations of the high contracting parties under the present treaty."

GUILTY OF THREE MURDERS. Dover, Me., Dec. 6 .- A verdict of murder in the first degree has been re-turned against Henry Lambert, a young French-Canadian guide. The French-Canadian guide. crime for which Lambert was committed was a triple murder, the victims being J. Wesley Allan, a prominent farmer and member of the board of selectmen of the town of Shirley, his wife, Mary S., and their daughter, Carrie L., aged 16 on Sunday evening,

Ottawa, Dec. 6.-The crown has finished its case against the half-breed Wabey, who killed a fur trader named McCabe. The defense is endeavoring to show that McCabe was killed while attempting to dishonor a squaw in Wabey's shanty, and that Wabey, who had been given liquor by Mc-Cabe, was also attacked by the latter and badly kicked. Wabey, it is claimed, did not act until McCabe added in-

sult to injury. TEACHER SAVES THREE BOYS. Kingston, Ont., Dec. 5.—While Willie Walker, Harold Genge and C. Grant, school boys, were skating on Rock Lake, they ventured out too far and all went down. They were in the water some little time when their teacher, Mr. Brown, skating some little distance away, came just in time and rescued them all.

TREMENDOUS TRAINLOAD OF HOPS.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 6.—A trainload of hops, consisting of 42 cars, was started on its way east today over the O., R. and N. Company's line. This is the largest single shipment of hops ever sent across the continent.

THEY ADVERTISE THEMSELVES.—
Immediately they were offered to the public, Parmelee's Vegetable Pills became popular because of the good report they made for themselves. That reputation has grown, and they now rank among the first medicines for use in attacks of dyspepsia and biliousness, complaints of the liver and kidneys, rheumatism, fever and ague, and the innumerable complications to which these ailments give rise.

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Railways and Navigation

Antwerp. First departure from St. John on or about Jan. 5.

For information about freights, etc., apply to 223 Commissioners street, Montreal.

# Railway.

On and after Sunday, Oct. 20, 1901, the train leaving Union Station, Toronto, via Grand Trunk Railway, at 10 p.m., connects with the Maritime Express and Local Express at Bonaventure Depot, Montreal, as follows:

The Maritime Express will leave Montreal daily, except Saturday, at 12 noon for Quebec, the Lower St. Lawrence, Halifax and the Sydneys, N.S., St. John, N.B., and other points in the Maritime Provinces.

The Local Express will leave Montreal daily, except Sunday, at 7:40 a.m., due to arrive at Levis at 1:05 p.m.

The Maritime Express is due to arrive at Montreal daily, except Sunday, at 7:40 a.m., due to arrive at Lovis at 1:05 p.m.

The Local Express is due to arrive at Montreal daily, except on Monday, at 5:30 p.m.

The Local Express is due to arrive daily, except Sunday, at 10 p.m.

Through Sleeping and Dining Cars on the Maritime Express. The Vestibule Trains are equipped with every convenience for the comfort of the traveler. On and after Sunday, Oct. 20, 1901, tho

Sleeping Cars on the Local Express. The Intercolonial connects the west with the finest fishing streams, seaside resorts and tourist routes in Canada. Tickets for sale at all offices of the Grand Trunk System.

WILLIAM ROBINSON, General Traveling Agent, 10 King street west, Toronto, H. A. PRICE, Assistant General Passenger Agent, 143 St. James street, Montreal

Railways and Navigation

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For tourist tickets, folders and all information, apply to any agent, Grand Trunk Railway System, or E. DE LA HOOKE, C. P. and T. A., "Clock" cor-ner, Richmond and Dundas streets. M. C. DICKSON, district passenger agent.

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### DELEVISION OF THE PROPERTY OF TOURIST CAR SERVICE.

Are running every Tuesday and Satur-

ay, through equipped Tourist Sleepers om Toronto to Vancouver, without hange, leaving Toronto at 1:45 p.m. on days named.

Vancouver ... For full particulars apply to nearest C. P. R. ticket agent, or to A. H. NOT-MAN, assistant general passenger agent, Toronto. W. FULTON, city passenger agent, 161 Dundas street, corner Richmond, London, Ont.

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