

PRESENT STATUS OF BOER STRUGGLE 25,000 MORE BRITISH TROOPS NEEDED

Difficulties of Kitchener's Task Increased by the Agitation at Home—Enemy's Fighting Force Consists of 20,000 Exceedingly Mobile Troops—Put Their Faith in the Liberal Party.

CANADIAN SOLDIERS ARE RECOGNIZED AS INVALUABLE

New York, Dec. 12.—The Times has the following cable from London: A military correspondent of The Times, in a message sent from Pretoria, declares that the statements that the British troops in South Africa are "stale" are untrue. He says, on the contrary, that the men are in splendid condition, and that they would be glad to get home, but have not lost their zest for fighting. This refers both to the regulars and the volunteers attached to the various battalions. Some companies recently recruited at South African seaports, are less satisfactory, but the best colonials—those from Canada, New Zealand and Australia—are invaluable, and the new Yeomanry are improving.

The correspondent says it is undeniable that the strain on the generals and their staffs is excessive. Many of these officers have worked for 12 hours daily for two years. Lord Kitchener alone seems absolutely impervious to wear and tear. The regimental officers are all right.

Reinforcements to the number of 25,000 would be immensely valuable, says the correspondent, and would render the last stage of the war rapid and complete. The Boers keep in the field number from 8,000 to 10,000, and they are mostly in as good condition as the British. They are seasoned soldiers, and get plenty of supplies from the Kaffir kraals and from parts of the country that are only accessible to themselves. The Kaffir kraals also serve as remount depots, and for each Boer there are two Kaffirs, who, even when unarmed, are useful auxiliaries.

For fighting purposes, says the correspondent, the enemy must be estimated as numbering 20,000 exceedingly mobile troops.

The Boers still believe that European intervention is imminent, that Great Britain is tired of the war and

WINGED A HIGH-MORAL DUCK.



MAN WHO KEEPS HIS WORD: I started out after those political coyotes, Sifton and Greenway, and I've likewise succeeded in knocking a few moral feathers out of that duck, Ross.

EAGER TO FIGHT THE BATTLES OF THE EMPIRE SIXTY-ONE BRAVE MEN DEPART FOR THE FRONT

Toronto's Quota of the Canadian Mounted Rifles Given an Enthusiastic Send-Off by Admirers
Throngs at the Union Depot at 10 o'clock Last Night—Joined by Hamilton, Guelph and London Troopers on Way to Montreal.

Amidst scenes of the greatest enthusiasm the sixty-one men recruited in Toronto for the new mounted force departed for Montreal at 10 o'clock last night. The men were formed up at the Armouries at 8 o'clock, and headed by the Q.O.R. band they marched to the depot under command of Col. Otter.

At the depot the crowd was so great and so determined to have a last glimpse of the soldiers that they broke open the doors leading from the waiting room to the overhead arch and rushed down hither and thither to the tracks below.

The following is a complete list of the Toronto contingent: Henry Roland Agassiz, John W. Anderson, John Richard Barker, George William Bond, Joseph Alex. Brown, Lester Brooker, Benjamin W. Terry, Arthur Brunt, Frank Bushfield, Edward L. D. P. Cook, Clayton S. Corson.

TO INTERVIEW CANDIDATES.
Messrs. Wallace and Campbell Will Be Seen By Prohibitionists.
The executive of the West York Prohibition Association will interview Messrs. Wallace and Campbell, the Parliamentary candidates, early next week to learn their attitude upon the prohibition issue.

NEEDS HANDS STRENGTHENED.
Hon. Mr. Sifton Intimates That His Government is Protectionist.
Winnipeg, Dec. 12.—In a speech before the Liberal convention, Hon. C. Sifton, referring to the tariff, said it was not so much getting further reductions, but holding what they already had, and he asked tariff reformers to strengthen his hands with resolutions which would show the feeling of the West.

QUEBEC ASSASSINATION.
Coroner's Jury Brings in a Unique Verdict in Landry Case.
Quebec, Dec. 12.—The coroner's inquest on the remains of Edmund Landry, who died from wounds received in a quarrel at Bedford Mines as previously reported, took place at the morgue to-day, and at 5 o'clock the following verdict was rendered: "That O'Dillon Gregoire unlawfully struck Edmund Landry on the head with a hammer and assassinated him."

TO-DAY IN TORONTO.
Grand jury assembly, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ald. Starr lectures on "Municipal Government," 2 and 8 p.m. Star Theatre, vaudeville, 2 and 8 p.m. Star Theatre, "Theobald Burlesques," 2 and 8 p.m.

DESPERATE BOERS TURN BANDITS AND MURDERERS

Atrocious Treatment Meted Out to Col. Benson's Command After the Battle of Brakenlaagte—Boers May Soon Lose Their Belligerent Rights.

KILL UNARMED, TORTURE WOUNDED

London, Dec. 12.—The War Office issued a statement to-night dealing with the Boer treatment of Colonel Benson's wounded at Brakenlaagte, which is the result of a special investigation of the matter instituted by Lord Kitchener.

The statement sets forth that 18 officers and men of Colonel Benson's command were kindly and even carefully treated by the Boers.

The remaining 75 men who were examined testified that they witnessed and suffered atrocities worse than those which followed the Vlakfontein disaster.

These latter said the unarmed and wounded men lying around the guns were killed at close range, and that the survivors of the engagement suffered torture, being robbed and stripped of their clothing, in spite of their wounds and broken limbs.

Lord Kitchener says that, evidently, the Boer leaders are no longer able to repress murder and outrage on the part of their subordinates.

BRODRICK CALLS BOERS BANDITS.
London, Dec. 12.—Speaking at Glasgow last night, Mr. Brodrick, the Secretary of State for War, referred to Lord Kitchener's report on the shooting of blacks by the Boers. Mr. Brodrick said this report made it perfectly clear that these murders were not committed in moments of passion, but were part of an organized system to cover the tracks of the enemy and to prevent possible information of their whereabouts.

Dealing with present aspects of the war, Mr. Brodrick said Boers had accepted parole and broken it, and that there would be no repetition of such actions. Within recent weeks, Boer commanders had shown less regard for the laws of war than previously, added the speaker, and these bandits would before long reach a crisis when they could no longer be treated as belligerents.

The speaker said the government was for no half measures in securing a settlement, and that any fresh negotiations must emanate from the Boers. Referring to the dissensions in the Liberal party, Mr. Brodrick created amusement by declaring that, had Lord Rosebery been Premier, the Liberals would have had a right to his counsels, as the captain could not withdraw and sulk in his cabin during rough weather, especially if the first mate had turned pirate and was engaged in looting the cargo.

BOERS SURRENDERING IN DETAIL.
Liverpool, Dec. 12.—The Post says the War Office interprets the large Boer captures to mean that the Boers are yielding with a view to avoiding the humiliation of a general surrender. The War Office, says the paper, expects the war to end soon.

A despatch from Paris says that The Rappel prints a despatch which asserts that Kitchener is ill.

DEWEY'S FORCE BROKEN UP.
New York, Dec. 12.—The Times has the following from London: A correspondent of The Times, telegraphing from Pretoria, says the Boer force which concentrated under Dewet in the Orange River Colony, and was hovering around the line of blockhouses between Kromstad and Lindley, has been broken up by Broadwood and Byng.

General Dewet, ex-President Steyn and about 100 men had previously fled to the north.

TRADE IN BANANAS IS BOTH PREPARE FOR WAR
POPE MAY PREVENT IT
Effort to Have Pickford & Black Steamer Call at St. John Not Practical.

Ottawa, Dec. 12.—The agitation started a few weeks ago in St. John, N.B., to have the Pickford & Black steamer, which has been chartered by the Canadian Commercial Agent at St. John, to call at St. John, has been backed up by representatives of the Canadian Commercial Agent at St. John. The idea was that a direct fruit trade could be established in this way, but an examination of the situation fails to reveal any ground for believing that such a trade would be possible under existing conditions.

SWEDISH ACADEMY UNDER FIRE.
The Recent Elections of Members Arouse Ire of the Press.
Stockholm, Dec. 12.—Bilal, a diplomatist; Professor Annerstedt, an historian, and Dr. Retzius, an anatomist, have been elected members of the Swedish Academy, which is the highest literary body in Sweden. The entire press is indignant, saying that the academy is already unique in its assembly of theologians and government officials. It is pointed out that any academy which has long ceased to take any account of the literary world, and that in view of that body's international task in awarding the Nobel literary prize, King Oscar ought to alter the rules of election in order that the prize may not be given to anatomical writers or dissection of fishes and mollusks, but to literary men.

ROYAL EDWARD HOTEL.
The "Royal Edward" will in all probability be the name of the new King-Edward hotel, which is being built on the site of the old hotel, Mr. W. G. Goodenough, secretary of the new hotel company, said that about 40 names had been submitted, and this one seemed to meet with the most favor. It is the choice of the "daughters of the Empire," who will be recognized in some way at the opening of the hotel. The name is suitable for two reasons: First, because of its general imperial significance, and second, because the hotel will be opened simultaneously with the coronation ceremonies of June next.

WHITNEY SETS OUT.
Cook's Turkish and Russian Baths. Bath and bed, \$1.20 and \$2.00 King W. Bath and bed, \$1.20 and \$2.00 King W.

MARRIAGES.
BROTHER-BROGSON—On Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1901, at 217 Wilton-avenue, by the Rev. L. W. Hill, Matilda Hodgson to Thomas E. Brother of Buffalo.

FEATHERSTON—At the residence of her mother, 417 Dufferin-street, on Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1901, at 217 Wilton-avenue, by the Rev. L. W. Hill, Matilda Hodgson to Thomas E. Brother of Buffalo.

DEATHS.
FEATHERSTON—At the residence of her mother, 417 Dufferin-street, on Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1901, at 217 Wilton-avenue, by the Rev. L. W. Hill, Matilda Hodgson to Thomas E. Brother of Buffalo.

UNDER A HORSE'S HOOF GIRL DRAGGED 75 YARDS

Annie Brooks of Dundas May Die From Wounds in Temple and Other Severe Injuries.

Hamilton, Dec. 12.—Miss Annie Brooks of Dundas came near being dragged to death by a runaway horse on King-street last afternoon. As she was crossing the road to catch a car, when a spirited horse, belonging to J. H. Robinson, undertaker, dashed into her. One of the shafts pierced her right temple, and her skirt was caught in the coils of the horse's front shoes. She was dragged over 75 yards.

In front of She's shoe store the infuriated animal ran into a farmer's rig and the sudden stop caused Miss Brooks to slide under a buggy standing near the curb. She was picked up unconscious and hurried to St. Joseph's Hospital, bleeding profusely. It was found that, besides the terrible gash on her head, she was suffering from a broken collar bone and a terribly bruised body. She was resting easily to-night, and is partly conscious.

UNRIVALLED VALUE.
\$37500 secure, on leading street in Parkdale, entirely new model, large room excepting well built, detached, ten rooms, finished in oak, \$4500 cash, water heating, modern plumbing, possession any time, terms only \$7500 cash, remainder at 5 per cent. H. H. Williams, 10 Victoria-street.

48 HOURS IN A DAY.
Chicago, Dec. 12.—Sixty million years hence, according to Sir Robert Ball, the famous astronomer, day will be about twice as long as it is now, or, in other words, it will take the earth approximately 48 hours to revolve on its axis instead of twenty-four. This is based upon the theory that as our sun grows older the day was only half as long as it is now.

White Dress Vests, for evening wear, just received from England. Harcourt & Son, 67 King St. West.

New Apartment House.
Mr. F. B. Roland has just erected a new apartment house in the city of Toronto, the plans of which are already in the hands of a prominent firm of architects in this city. He proposes to put up a first-class, up-to-date building in every respect, which will eclipse anything of the kind ever erected in Canada. As Mr. Roland is a man who has had large experience in matters of this kind, both in Buffalo and New York City, and as he is a man who will easily carry out his intentions, a very fine building may be expected.

Snokers presents Cigars—10 in box—Havana. Alvin Ballard, manufacturer.

55.00 Christmas Hamper.
Five dollars half dozen, Christmas Hamper, containing two bottles, according to choice, of Brandy, Scotch, Irish or Canadian Whiskey, and four bottles of Port, Sherry, Madeira, Tokay, Claret, Sauterne or Burgundy, Martell's, 79 Queen-street, phone Main 1108.

Patents—Fetherstonhaugh & Co., 410 King-street West, Toronto, also Montreal, Ottawa and Washington.