

Four Thousand Rebels Submit

During General Clements' March Northward.

British Scouts Report 12,000 to 18,000 of the Enemy Moving South From Thaba N'Chu—Hussars Sent to the Assistance of Irish Fusiliers at Reddersburg—Methuen's Success—Heavy Loss Sustained by the Boers in the Death of Gen. Villebois Mareuil—10,000 Remounts for the British Arriving.

London, April 7.—4.30 a.m.—It is asserted that 4,000 rebels surrendered during Gen. Clements' march northward. The Boers will do their utmost to hold Ladybrand and Thaba N'Chu, both being rich grain producing districts.

Not a word regarding the affair at Reddersburg has been allowed to come through except the dispatch of Lord Roberts. It is therefore impossible to form any notion as to what has happened. Meanwhile the British public is beginning to realize the immense difficulties to be overcome even before Pretoria is reached. This body of some 500 British troops, without guns, which disappeared so completely within 35 miles of the great British army, had for its business to guard a section of nearly 90 miles of railway between Bloemfontein and Springfontein. It is said that the Boers who captured the British at Reddersburg belonged to Olivier's commando. If so, he has not retired north, and hopes are expressed that he may still be cut off.

BOER DESIGNS.

The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Morning Post, telegraphing Thursday, says: "The Boers are apparently making an attempt to redeem their promise to retake Bloemfontein. A considerable force has moved south through Thaba N'Chu. Gen. Tucker's isolation at Kameel is more apparent than real, since the open ground north of Bloemfontein offers small opportunities for Boer tactics. They may possibly engage him to distract attention from operations elsewhere."

The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, telegraphing Thursday, says: "A seditious meeting was summoned by Transvaal emissaries today at Leuwburg, but nobody attended. Boer patrols from Brandfort have cut out the telegraph wires between here and Boshof."

BOERS IN FORCE.

The British scouts reported yesterday that a force of from 12,000 to 18,000 Boers had been seen beyond Bosman's Kop, moving from Thaba N'Chu to the south. The enemy, by appeals and menaces combined, are vainly trying to induce the burghers to take the field again.

A Bloemfontein dispatch, dated the 5th, says: "The first cavalry brigade, under Col. Porter, reconnoitred eastward today beyond Louw Kop. They found 150 Boers, and opened upon them with shells. The Boers dispersed instantly."

Small bodies of Boers can be seen in the vicinity of this town and the Boers are still in the neighborhood of the waterworks. Lord Roberts is taking steps to meet the activity of the Boers.

The Boers were in force yesterday sixty miles south of Bloemfontein. They had a brush with the British patrols.

Advices from Springfontein, dated 6 p.m., April 6, announce that the Boers have been sighted west of the railroad.

THE LOST COMPANIES.

The lost companies are probably part of the force guarding the railroad at Boshof, 30 miles south of Bloemfontein. The Boers are evidently operating in force near the railroad, and there is a possibility of the line being interrupted for a brief period at any time.

As the captured British soldiers were in a position to defend themselves for nearly 24 hours and were then forced to surrender, the fighting must have been severe.

SENT TO THE RESCUE.

Norval's Pont, April 5.—A detachment of Hussars, who were proceeding hence to the relief of Ladysmith, reported to have been detained at Edenburg, about 15 miles southwest of Reddersburg, in the Orange Free State, and dispatched to the assistance of the Irish Fusiliers captured near Reddersburg.

CORRECTED CASUALTY LIST.

London, April 6, 7.20 p.m.—The corrected list of Sannas Post casualties gives the following totals: Missing,

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323; wounded, 83; killed, 4. The missing include 134 artillerymen, 25 Life Guards, 22 men of the Tenth Hussars and 51 of Roberts' Horse. The others are divided among numerous regiments.

Boer Reports.

The Pretoria correspondent of the Daily Mail, telegraphing Thursday, says: "Colonel Plumer's force is returning north."

According to advices from Pretoria all British subjects have been ordered to quit Pretoria and Johannesburg immediately, except some 400, who are permitted under a recent law to remain in the Rand. Those who are expelled number about 600.

Another Boer version of the fighting with Col. Plumer's force says that four officers and thirty men were taken prisoners at Ramathlabama. It appears that the names Cecil and Granville, which were originally supposed to indicate two of the officers captured at that time, should have been read together as the name of one officer.

The report that Mr. Steyn has been appointed to the command of the Free State and the further report that the Free State has arranged a loan from the Transvaal for war purposes are both confirmed.

The Situation.

BOER AIMS.

Spencer Wilkinson, reviewing the military situation in the Morning Post, says: "The Boer strategy at present may have one or more of several aims. The idea of cutting off the British detachments is natural and obvious. So is the plan of striking at the railway south of Bloemfontein. The plan of collecting a large force in the hills near Thaba N'Chu is that of a flank position. The theory of it is that a strong Boer force here would threaten the British communications when the British advance is resumed, and therefore that Lord Roberts will have to attack and clear these hills before moving forward. If he moves east to attack them, the Boer forces east of Kameel would move south against his communications."

Ten thousand remounts from South America are due to arrive during the coming week at ports of Natal and Cape Colony. Remounts are anxiously awaited at Bloemfontein.

Another batch of 1,500 Boer prisoners was removed on Thursday from the transport Cambridge. The men presented a woe-begone appearance. Many of them were sick, and their baggage consisted of Kaffir blankets, canvas water bottles and cooking utensils. One of the prisoners died of smallpox and four others were fatally ill.

METHUEN'S SUCCESS.

The Daily Telegraph has the following from Boshof, dated Thursday: "Lord Methuen's relieving force was concentrated here today. The Boers are in force a few miles distant, on the Vaal River. This town is practically deserted, all the men being with the commando under 'Commandant Duplessis,' who controls the district. Lord Methuen commands in a spirited little action nine miles to the southeast, where he surrounded 70 Boers on a kopje. Not a man escaped. We took 54 prisoners, 60 horses and a quantity of baggage. Gen. De Villebois was killed during the action. A Boer hoisted a white flag and then fled immediately after, killing a British officer. The murderer was instantly shot."

It is stated that most of the prisoners captured at Boshof are foreigners. In the death of General Villebois British and the Boers lost their best instructed soldier in continental methods of warfare. As the late Gen. Joubert's chief of staff, his brain devised the Boer defenses against Gen. Buller's advance to the relief of Ladysmith. He was the most notable of all the soldiers of fortune serving with the Boers.

LOYAL MESSAGE.

London, April 6.—Mr. Joseph Chamberlain has received a cable dispatch, sent through the governor of Cape Colony, Sir Alfred Milner, from the officers and men of the Irish squadron of Roberts' Horse, expressing the loyal devotion of the troops on the eve of Queen Victoria's departure for Ireland, and their own departure for the front, and their gratification at her visit and their ability to fight in her name.

Her majesty has replied to this message as follows: "The Queen thanks you for your message, which has greatly touched her majesty. She is very glad to be again in your native land, where she has received a most loyal and hearty welcome. The Queen trusts that good fortune may follow you all." Dunraven's Sharpshooters started for South Africa today, amid the scenes of enthusiasm. Lord Dunraven, at the last moment, decided to accompany the force, and has been posted as a supernumerary captain on the battalion staff. The corps is formed of men chosen for their shooting capabilities. In one company alone seven of the men had figured in the final stage of the Queen's prize at the Bisley shooting tournament.

The Canadians.

LIVELY WORK CUT OUT. Bloemfontein, April 4.—There has been a reorganization of the Mounted Infantry corps of the army under Lord Roberts at this point, the new division

being placed under the command of Gen. Hamilton. It is composed of two brigades, one being composed of the Canadians, Australians, New Zealanders and the other colonial units here. This brigade has been placed under the command of Lieut.-Col. Hutton, who has arrived at the front.

The second brigade, which is made up of regulars and volunteers, imperial troops, will be under command of Major Ridley.

This organization of the Mounted Infantry corps of Lord Roberts' army probably indicates an early advance movement of the entire British army northward in which movement the Canadians and other Mounted Infantry divisions will act as the advance guard of scouts, patrolling and clearing the country in front of the main army during the march. In this event, we are likely to have some very lively work to do, as the country is said to be fairly swarming with small bodies of Boers entrenched at favorable points and artfully concealed in the spruits.

Captured!

About 200 Insurgents
Corralled at Kenhardt.

Boer Prisoners Make a Break
From Simons Town.

Fourteen Got Away, One Killed and
One Wounded—Gen. Roberts' List
of Reddersburg Casualties.

Cape Town, April 6.—A determined attempt to escape was made today by the Boer prisoners at Simon's Town, and fourteen of them succeeded in getting away.

In the confusion one of the prisoners was killed and another was wounded. One man was recaptured, but about fourteen are missing. Sentinels have been placed at different parts of the town, and the station is under military supervision.

CAPTURED 200 BOERS.

Carnarvon, Cape Colony, Friday, April 6.—It is reported that 200 insurgents, who were not aware that Sir Charles Parsons had occupied Kenhardt and who were on their way to that place, have been captured by the British troops.

The Canadian artillery has returned here from Van Wyksvlei.

THE REDDESBURG LOSSES.

London, April 7.—1.05 p.m.—Lord Roberts reports to the war office as follows: "Bloemfontein, Friday April 6.—The casualties at Reddersburg were: Officers killed, Captain F. G. Casson and Lieut. C. R. Barclay, both of the Northumberland; wounded, 2; captured, 8. Non-commissioned officers and men killed, 8; wounded, 33. The rest were captured. Our strength was 167 mounted infantry and 424 infantry. The enemy was said to be 3,200 strong with five guns."

ROBBERY AND CRIMINAL ASSAULT

Fiendish Treatment of a Defenceless
Colored Woman F. v. Glencoe
People Arrested.

The respectable inhabitants of the village of Glencoe are greatly exercised over a most dastardly outrage which was perpetrated on Tuesday night last. The house of a respectable colored woman named Dorsey was entered by nearly a dozen young men. The woman was first beaten and then criminally assaulted, the assault being accompanied by violence of the most execrable description. The crowd secured about 15 in cash that was in the house, and the effects of the exposure alone would have soon caused death. She is still in a critical condition, and may not recover.

High Constable McLeod took up the case, and has already arrested five young men in Glencoe, on suspicion of being concerned in the crime. They are Wm. Archer, Mat Fimmore, Mont. Golding, James Kelly and Archie McCallum. Some of them are connected with respectable families. The arrest of the remainder of the gang is looked for.

STRATHROY.

Advertiser Agent, J. D. Meekison.

Strathroy, April 6.—Miss Jessie McBeth has returned to Strathroy after spending a few days at home here.

The last meeting (for the term) of the Collegiate Institute Literary Society was held in Form III, yesterday afternoon. A good programme of songs, recitations and readings was presented.

The Ladies' Aid of the Front Street Church will give a photograph concert on Monday evening, April 9, in the auditorium of the church.

Mr. W. S. Wilkinson, provincial organizer for the I. O. F., is in town in the interest of the order, and will probably remain a couple of weeks.

Rev. T. M. Fothergill will be in Strathroy this week assisting Rev. H. C. Speller in special evangelistic services.

Miss Edith Bradshaw, of Brooklyn, is the guest of her grandparents, James Bowley, Napierston.

Miss Brackbill, who has been a missionary for several years in China in connection with the W. M. S. of the Methodist Church, will give an address on mission work in China on Sunday evening in the Front Street Methodist Church. A collection in aid of the funds of the Women's Missionary Society will be taken up.

Joseph Edwin Jacques, of Toronto, has arrived in Strathroy and entered into partnership with S. M. Smythe, in the Strathroy furniture factory business.

The Miriam Hive of the L. O. T. M. will hold an "At Home" in Robertson's Hall on Wednesday evening, April 11.

Every animal kept by man, excepting the cat, is taxed in Austria, and now there is a proposal to tax guinea pigs in that country.

Warning!

Foreign Ministers at Shanghai
Sent China an Ultimatum.

"Boxers" Society Must Be Suppressed Inside of Two Months,
or Troops Will Be Landed.

London, April 7.—A special dispatch from Shanghai announces that the American, British, German and French ministers have sent a joint note to the Chinese foreign office, demanding the total suppression of the Society of Boxers within two months, and announcing that otherwise the powers mentioned will land troops and march into the interior northern provinces, Shan Tung and Chih Li, in order to secure the safety of foreigners.

According to the same dispatch, the American, Italian and French legations are now provided with naval guards from the large gathering of war ships at Taku.

Liu Kun, Yih, viceroy of Liang Kiang, has had three audiences with the Dowager Empress relative to the emperor, and it is believed that he has impressed her with the advisability of restoring his majesty to power.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT

Debate on the Budget Continued
—Progress With Bills.

Ottawa, April 6.—The reading of Col. Otter's first report of the battle of Passburg by Dr. Borden was the feature of the day's proceedings in the house. The references to the bravery of the troops, the courage of Dr. Eliot and Rev. Father O'Leary, and the magnificent work of Private Hornbrook, were enthusiastically applauded. Dr. Montague, Mr. Dobell and Mr. Roche spoke on the budget. Mr. Heyd moved the adjournment of the debate.

Col. Tyrwhitt asked if it was true that reports from South Africa were sometimes not given out until a day after they were received. Dr. Borden replied that such reports were always given out at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Adolphe Caron and Sir Charles Tupper suggested that telegrams and reports should be read to the house, as in England, and asked that the report received from Col. Otter this morning be read. Dr. Borden thereupon read the report, published in another column. It was received with repeated applause.

House adjourned at 11 p.m. The following bills were passed through the committee stage: To incorporate the Gaspe Short Line Railway Company—Mr. Lemieux. Respecting the Resignation and Western Railway Company—Mr. McCallister. The following bills were passed: Respecting the Montreal and Gatineau Colonization Railway Company—Mr. Bourassa. To incorporate the St. Marys River Railway and Colonization Company—Mr. Oliver. Respecting the Bridge Company—Mr. Tabor. Respecting the Bay of Quinte Railway Company—Mr. Hurley. Respecting the Ottawa Railway Company—Mr. Burnett.

DEAD BOOKS

Literary Work of the Last Period
Weak and Commonplace.

"The decade which is now nearing its end will be found, I think, when looked at retrospectively, to have been the most sterile decade of the whole century whose close it marks," writes Harry Thurston Peck, in *Ansies's* for February. "It is a decade in which some eminent authors have finished their careers, and in which other eminent authors have deteriorated and sunk to the level of the commonplace, but in which scarcely one author has arisen to do original and splendid work imbued with a vitality that is sure to make it live throughout the years that are to come."

Take fiction, for example. Robert Louis Stevenson's career laps over so as to include the first four years of our decade, yet in those four years he wrote nothing that can be ranked with the best work; for one cannot consider "David Balfour" to deserve a place beside "Kidnapped," of which it is a sequel. Mr. Henry James is still numbered among our living authors, and is still industriously writing; yet of him it also may be said that his most characteristic and most enduring work was written more than ten years ago. Though he still shows us his continued possession of the qualities that have made him so exquisite a master of psychology, he never reaches now the level of "The American," "The Europeans" and "The Point of View"; while in criticism and miscellaneous writing he has of late done practically nothing. In fiction by Americans there is also nothing which both belongs to this decade, and at the same time is the permanent record of literature.

Mr. Howells, like his literary congener, Mr. James, is still producing novels; but they are novels written rather for entertainment than for fame, and they are not the best of his work.

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to see how thoroughly ephemeral the fiction of the past ten years has been. It is necessary only to call to mind a few of the books that enjoyed at the time of their publication a tremendous vogue. There are, for example, "The Heavenly Twins," "Ben Hur," "The Red Badge of Courage," "The Prisoner of Zenda," "Tribles," "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," "Quo Vadis," and more recently "King Solomon's Mines" and "Hugh Wynne." Any one of these at the time when it first appeared would have been described by thousands of readers as a genuine addition to the literature that will last. But who thinks of any of them in that way now? They entertained them amusements; they served their purpose; they have already ceased to be sold; and, to all intents and purposes, they are forgotten."

FAMOUS CHARACTER DEAD.

There has lately died in England a man as well known for his early criminal record and late Christian zeal as our own Jerry Macaulay. His name was Archie Sloos, but he was known as "Dad" Sloos for so many years that he seemed to have no other name. He had spent forty years of his sixty or seventy inside one prison or another, and he used humorously to allude to himself as the "ex-Duke of Portland," as most of his incarceration had been in the prison by that name. He bore the scars of 300 lashes by the cat-o-nine tails, and was probably as hopelessly a case as all the millions of London could afford. But one night, years ago, while looking round for some opportunity to commit further burglary, he strayed into a Salvation Army meeting, and as he himself used to say, "What forty years of prison life could not do the grace of God did in a minute." He left a new creature in Christ Jesus, and to the end of his days bore the Master he had accepted. His story was published in the Westminster Gazette some years ago, and it has done not a little to commend the army to the English public. Like Jerry Macaulay he was buried with honor, and he is remembered by the best men in the city.

LEGION OF SHELTONS.

The general conviction appears to be that Mr. Sheldon has made a failure of the attempt to show what a daily newspaper ought to be. The result could hardly be otherwise, for he came to the work without adequate training for it, and with preconceived opinions on the plan upon which a daily paper should be conducted, formed upon too narrow a range of thought and experience. There are scores of men in every community, who flatter themselves that they could run a newspaper better than the editor of best skill and training, and perhaps nothing except such an experience as Mr. Sheldon has come through would disturb their confidence in themselves.—Canadian Baptist.

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