

Seal Brand Coffee

(1 lb. and 2 lb. cans.)

IS PICKED PURITY

Strong in Purity. Fragrant in Strength.

IMITATORS ARE MANIFOLD.

CHASE & SANBORN,

MONTREAL AND BOSTON.

LETTERS FROM THE NATAL

Excitement Following the Outbreak of Hostilities.

Former London Lady's Graphic Description of the War Fever in Natal—Interesting Incidents.

The following are two letters (in part) received by Mr. W. C. Ferguson, B.A., of the Collegiate Institute, from his sister, Mrs. J. H. Aiken, at present residing in Natal:

Camperdown, Oct. 12, 1899.

My Dear Will,—We were very glad to receive your letter of last week.

You will likely get last week's letter at the same time as this, as the Natal mails were left behind at Cape Town last week, having arrived there two days late, owing to the storms on the coast, which prevented the landing at East London (from where the mails were to be sent to Cape Town overland) of the mails in time. The mail steamer waited a day and then had to go on without them. I am particularly sorry that this should have happened just now, as mother will be looking anxiously for letters; but you need not be surprised if you should often find our letters late now, as everything is so upset in the way of transportation.

Mr. Aiken went to Durban last Monday night, but will be back tomorrow night. I don't suppose he can do much business on account of the declaration of war, which has just been made.

You can hardly conceive the excitement there has been caused here already by the expectation of war. There are only two towns of any size in Natal—Maritzburg, of about 20,000, and Durban, of about 35,000, white people, and their population has been suddenly doubled. As it is the time of the year when Cape Colony has the best season, all, or nearly all, of the wealthier people have gone there. Natal being nearer the Transvaal, we have the destitute and many who have suddenly become so. All the towns near the border are now forsaken by the women and children, so that these two towns have had this further addition. Men, women and children have all been sent out of Newcastle, and the women and children to Ladysmith, which is now the military headquarters for Natal.

All our communication with the Free State and the Transvaal is cut off, and fifty miles of our own railway line is deserted. Of course, there is no way of getting to Cape Colony, except by boat, and our trains are only running a little less than one hundred miles in Natal. If you look at the map you will see what a long line of border we have to protect, and you will not wonder that, with such a small number of troops, our forces are being sent back to Ladysmith, which is about six hours by train from Maritzburg.

We cannot afford to lose an engagement in these early times, as it would not only mean the rising of the Transvaal, but also rising among the disaffected Dutch in Cape Colony. We are now hourly expecting to hear that the Dutch are at Ladysmith, and that the first engagement has taken place. We had a splendid view of Gen. Buller and his staff as we met them coming up from Durban. Our trains being both stopped, our carriage was opposite the special car they were in. He is a very fine soldierly looking man, and seems to have been a regular hero in Egypt, if all that is said of him be true—and no doubt it is. We have been thinking for some time about going to Cape Colony. We will likely decide soon now.

We have had a cold, miserable week, with a little rain and a good deal of wind. The poor fellows in camp have been having a very hard time of it, especially those from India, as they feel the cold so much. We will try and write you regularly, but you must not be alarmed if you do not hear regularly. In the meantime we are occupying ourselves here with tennis, playing, etc., as if nothing were going on around us.

Imperial Hotel, Pietermaritzburg, Natal, Oct. 20, 1899.

As you will see, we are again in Maritzburg for a few days, winding up business here for the present as fast as we can. I am glad to be able to say that we are getting in the money satisfactorily, all things considered, for which we are very thankful. There are so many people here absolutely without means of support, who had to leave everything behind in the Transvaal. There are, of course, people who live regularly up to their income, and with the loss of employment they become destitute at once. All who need help are being looked after, but so far, but the funds in England will be needed before long, although local help is given in a most liberal manner by all who can afford it.

This is one of the most miserable days you can imagine. After being

misty and showery for two days, it has settled down into a hopeless, cold, gray, rainy day, and I feel quite cold as I sit here near the window. Mr. Aiken has to be out, unfortunately, as he wants to collect all debts before any panic should affect him and his wife, who are very excitable, and often go in one day from a feeling of confidence to one of deepest despair. As you will know there are hundreds of the men of Maritzburg among the volunteers, and these are the men who are acting as scouts and about the only ones who have thus far come under the fire of the enemy. These men can, of course, speak both Dutch and English, and know the country well; hence their fitness for such hazardous duty. Last week rumors reached here that a number of volunteers had been killed, and though there was no truth in it, it caused a tremendous sensation and almost a panic. So far there have only been engagements with our scouts, the capture of a train and a few policemen, during which a handful of our men put hundreds of them to flight, and we are told killed quite a large number of the enemy, without any serious casualties on our side. A report has just been circulated that our men are just now being sent to the front to fight between Dundee and Glencoe, just where I used to take my bicycle rides a year ago, and are meeting with great success, the enemy being in full flight.

2 p.m.—We have just heard that Mr. Bester is to be shot as a spy at Ladysmith tomorrow morning. He is a Natal Dutchman and was suspected in the previous war of sending word to the Dutch camp of British movements. He was accordingly watched and found carrying dispatches, and this is the result. I know both him and his wife. They were at the hotel for a few days about a month ago, and as they sat at our table we got to know them. He seemed a very nice old chap, and I feel sorry for him, but he ought to have known better. They have a grown-up family of sixteen children, but both looked hale and hearty. This is merely an incident. It seems so strange that we are used already to such tales. You should see the rejoicing when reports come in of Dutchmen in large numbers being killed, but of course the more Dutchmen that are killed at the beginning of hostilities, the less chance there is of the war being a protracted one.

This changeable weather has been very hard on all the troops. On Monday there was a hot wind blowing, with a temperature of 98 in the shade; and today it is about 60 degrees. I hope it will soon be fine again, as this cold, damp weather is most miserable.

Your loving sister,
LIZZIE AIKEN.

WHEN YOUR DOCTOR

When your doctor writes a prescription for you, it should be very carefully prepared, so that the results desired by your medical adviser may follow.

The preparation of physicians' prescriptions is our forte.

Toilet Goods in Endless Variety.

Perfumes, Atomizers,

Soaps, Brushes,

Combs and Whisks.

Paine's Celery Compound, the world's leading medicine, always in stock; the kind that cures.

W. T. STRONG & CO., DRUGGISTS,
184 DUNDAS ST., LONDON, ONT.

THE POLICE COURT

Five Dollars for Giving a Black Eye—Bicyclists Warned.

Benjamin Campbell, an employe of the City Gas Company, was charged at the police court this morning with assaulting David Smith, money-lender, and doing him bodily harm. Campbell acknowledged hitting the complainant with his fist, but stated that he did so in self-defense, as Smith had a brick in his hand, and was about to hit him with it. The complainant testified that Campbell had grabbed him by the arm and stopped him in the street. He got away and picked up the brick in defense. Complainant's left eye was badly discolored. Campbell was fined \$5 or 20 days.

John Harris and John Killen, drunks who have been on remand, were discharged. Murray, charged with riding a bicycle on the sidewalk, was allowed to go, the magistrate remarking that in the future everyone found guilty of riding on the sidewalk would be fined, no matter what might be the circumstances.

Robert Gash was found not guilty of tying his horse to a tree, as charged, and allowed to go.

Daniel Linder, a vagrant, was placed on remand for a week.

DETROIT UNION HAS WON OUT

The Street Railway Men's Stand Is Upheld.

Sixty-Three Girls of Hamilton Knitting Company Still Out.

[Detroit Free Press, Nov. 28.]

The contention of the Mount Clemens operators of the rapid railway cars that they should be allowed to exercise their privilege of coming into the territory of the Detroit division has been overruled by the executive committee of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees.

The decision of the executive committee was arrived at after four hours of testimony yesterday afternoon and four hours of deliberation in executive session last night. When the gentlemen composing this highest tribunal of the union came out of President Mahon's office in the Hodges block at midnight they were under pledge not to talk to representatives of the press about their action.

Chairman Samuel Lee, of the board, explained that, as it was a question of great moment to the union, they desired to be perfectly sure of themselves and their language before announcing their decision, inasmuch as it would be a precedent for all time. It was learned that the decision of the committee was arrived at after four hours of testimony yesterday afternoon and four hours of deliberation in executive session last night.

The settlement of the question means more than a cessation of hostilities between the Mount Clemens and the Detroit unionists. It means that a union man is protected in his rights so long as he operated within the jurisdiction of his division.

Yesterday morning Samuel Hill, appointed by the street car officials as the arbitrator in the matter of the Rapid Railway crew who violated city limits, and President Alex. Dill, arbitrator for the association, got together and agreed upon the appointment of the secretary of the board, J. M. Reeves, of Pittsburg, and Rezin Orr, of Fort Wayne, Ind.

President Mahon advised the board of arbitrators that as there probably would be a meeting of the Detroit division board, H. W. Wheaton, of New Castle, the secretary of the board, J. M. Reeves, of Pittsburg, and Rezin Orr, of Fort Wayne, Ind.

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Is the baby too thin?
Does he increase too slowly in weight?
Are you in constant fear he will be ill?

Then give him more flesh. Give him more power to resist disease. He certainly needs a fat-forming food.

Scott's Emulsion is just that food. It will make the baby plump; increase the weight; bring color to the cheeks, and prosperity to the whole body. Thin children take to it as naturally as they do to their milk.

See and try, all druggists, SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, Toronto.

GEN. HUTTON'S JUDGMENT

May Not Unreasonably Be Called in Question—A Case in Point.

[Special to The Advertiser per C.P.R.]

Ottawa, Nov. 28.—At the last meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association, along with other words of complaint, Major-Gen. Hutton expressed himself as horrified with the ignorance of the artillery branch of the Canadian militia, and of how little was known by officers of general and technical artillery work. Upon the urgent representation of the general in this regard, the government made provisions for the appointment of an officer of the Royal Artillery, at the same rate of pay as a deputy minister, whose duty it was to raise the standard of efficiency which has been displayed of late in this benighted branch. Major Stone, an officer of the Royal Artillery, who had been employed at the war office for some years previous, was selected for the work. It is understood that upon Major Stone's arrival in Canada he did not find the artillery in the hopeless condition described by the general. On the contrary, he was most favorably impressed with the efficiency which he found generally prevailing. This can be more readily believed for the reason that Major Stone (now senior lieutenant-colonel in Canada), has been chosen by the general to perform the important duties of quartermaster-general and chief staff officer, duties wholly and entirely different from those which he was brought to Canada to perform. It is Gen. Hutton's opinion that there are no Canadian officers qualified to discharge the duties recently assigned to Lieut.-Col. Stone, but if his opinion in this respect be measured by his conclusions in regard to the artillery, then our militia can fairly judge as to how far he is right and capable of forming unbiased opinions, and in how far he is wrong in his recommendations coming from him should be followed.

MAHON ARRIVED.
W. D. Mahon, national president of the union, arrived from his Pennsylvania trip, and with him were the members of the national executive board, H. W. Wheaton, of New Castle, the secretary of the board, J. M. Reeves, of Pittsburg, and Rezin Orr, of Fort Wayne, Ind.

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London Mothers Have Learned

That there's no place like

Oak Hall

.....FOR.....

BOYS' CLOTHING

Purse experience has told them this. Wear experience has verified it. Here is more of this best kind of clothing:

Boys' 3-Piece Suits, sizes 28 to 33, \$2.75, \$3, \$3.50, \$4, \$4.50.

Boys' Fine 3-Piece Dress Suits, \$5, \$5.50, \$6, \$6.50.

Every garment guaranteed. All goods used in the making of these suits, thoroughly well shrunk before making up.

OAK HALL,

154 Dundas Street, London.

ALFRED TAYLOR, Manager.

Amusements.

Mr. Otis Skinner will come to the Grand Opera House for one performance only, Friday, Dec. 8, in that successful comedy by Henry Arthur James, called a "comedy of manners," entitled "The Liars." The production is splendidly mounted, being the same as used at the Empire Theatre, New York, where it had a run of four months. The novelty of the love story and the delicious way in which it is told by the author and by Mr. Skinner and his company, cannot fail to win an audience and accounts for the extraordinary popularity of the piece. In addition to the pretty love story there is a display of ravishing toilet, that will make the feminine eye kindle. London and Paris gowns of the very latest designs are displayed by the ladies of the company.

LIKE A NIGHTINGALE.

Sang the Piano of Froelich—a Triumph for a Famous Instrument.

The Toronto World, referring to the recent piano recital by Friedheim, said: The presence of a great piano virtuoso in Toronto, such as Arthur Friedheim, is an event of the greatest musical interest. Last night's recital in Assoson Hall, was listened to by a remarkable audience in the sense that a large portion of those present were musical experts. Professors, teachers, pupils of the piano have never been in attendance at such large numbers as last night, and proficients on the piano came in from Hamilton, Brantford, Whitby, Belleville and other outside towns to hear the great Friedheim. Mr. Friedheim was free to select the instrument for his recital, and it is a veritable triumph for a Canadian piano that he chose the famous Heintzman & Co. concert grand. In the hands of the eminent virtuoso all the responsive qualities of this magnificent instrument were exhibited. The piano yielded a toll of tone that was enormous in the forte passages, and became like a miraculously tuned aeolian harp. Its dynamic gradations were remarkable, and from a full almost organ-like tone in the forte passages, it became like the murmur of a quiet brook in its softest notes. It sang at times like a nightingale. It expressed all the highest elements of the art. It was a triumph for the piano as it was a triumph for the virtuoso, and this time the Heintzman grand added still another to its splendid roll of classical triumphs in London warehouses, Heintzman & Co., 217 Dundas street.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c. E. W. Groves' signature is on each box.

A STRUGGLE...

It is between the miners and the mine owner; but we're not in it yet. Probably everything is settled now, but in the meantime we are supplying ourselves with the best hard coal obtainable at prices that have no suggestion of fatness. It isn't more certain that coal is black than it is that we ought to give better satisfaction to our customers than any other dealer or dealers in this city.

HUNT BROS.

IF IN NEED OF AN

ELECTRIC OR BELL

For any purpose, go to....

R. M. MILLAR

260 1/2 Dundas St., Spencer Block.

and get prices. Large variety of Push Buttons and Bells to select from.

Tillson's Pan-Dried Rolled Oats

are distinguished from all other brands (Pan-Dried is their registered trade mark) by their absolute cleanliness, their rich delicious, nutty flavor and by their wholesome-ness.

The little tots and grown-up folks gain new muscle, brain and nerve force from eating them. Buy them and try them if you never have—you'll like them. Best grocers sell them by the pound.

The Tillson Co., Limited, Tilsonburg, Ont.

AUCTION SALE OF TIMBER BERTHS.

DEPARTMENT OF CROWN LANDS, (Woods and Forests Branch) Toronto, November 1, 1899.

NOTICE is hereby given that under authority of Order in Council, TIMBER BERTHS as hereunder mentioned in the ALGOMA, NIPISING and HAINY RIVER DISTRICTS, viz: The Townships of BOWELL, FOW, HART, LAWSON, IYAN and part of MONTGRIFF, in the District of ALGOMA; the Township of NORMAN, part of CARROLL, BERTH Nos. 4 & 5, and the north part of the Township of WIDFIELD, all in the District of NIPISING, and certain small areas in the District of HAINY RIVER, will be offered for sale by Public Auction at the Department of Crown Lands, Toronto, at the hour of ONE o'clock p.m., on

WEDNESDAY,

the TWENTIETH day of

DECEMBER NEXT,

Sheets containing conditions and terms of Sale, with information as to Acre, Lots and Concessions comprised in each Berth, will be furnished on application, personally or by letter, to the Department of Crown Lands, or to the Crown Timber Offices at Ottawa and Ras Portage.

E. J. DAVIS,

Commissioner of Crown Lands

N.B.—No unauthorized publication of this advertisement will be paid for.

CANADIAN PACIFIC

A Tourist Car. A fully equipped Tourist Sleeper runs through to Vancouver, leaving Toronto at 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Saturdays, and Seattle, leaving North Bay at 10:30 p.m. Thursdays.

Any Canadian Pacific Agent will gladly give you further particulars and secure you accommodation in one of the cars.

A. H. NOTMAN, A.G.P.A., 1 King street east, Toronto.

THOS. R. PARKER, City Pass. Agent,