

BOERS NOW TRAIN WRECKERS

Natal Light Horse Having a Busy Time.

METHUEN ILL OF FEVER.

Steyn Reported Seriously Ill-The Boers Lost Heavily Last Month-Salisbury on War Enquiry-Preparing for Winter-Shellings.

Durban, Natal, March 29.-The Second Imperial Light Horse, which is made up of Natalians, is busy in Swaziland. The regiment has captured 1,000 head of Boer cattle. Some of the men met a Boer party, consisting of a commandant and several other officers. They ordered the Boers to throw up their hands. Two who were slow in obeying the order were winged, whereupon the party surrendered. Later a number of snipers were captured.

Methuen Ill. London, March 29.-A despatch from Pretoria says Gen. Methuen is ill of fever, but is progressing satisfactorily.

Bribery at Johannesburg. Johannesburg, March 29.-The Military Tribunal has sentenced the manager of the Cyanide works, Mr. Memmer, to two years' hard labor for attempting to bribe the lieutenant of police by promising a share of the proceeds of buried gold in return for assistance to recover the same.

Losses of the Enemy. Pretoria, March 29.-The Boer losses for the month of February in killed amounted to 190, while over 1,600 were taken prisoners or surrendered. According to estimates given by the enemy in the field and by prisoners, the number of killed and wounded together was 560, the majority of the casualties being the result of General French's operations, and Babington's attack on Delarey's force.

Cape M.P. Aids the Boers. Cape Town, March 29.-The evidence in the treason trials at Dordrecht disclosed the fact that "Pony" De Wet, who represents Woodhouse in the Assembly, actually assisted at the trial of several loyal colonial natives which took place when the Boers occupied the town.

Boers Reaping in Cape Colony. Durban, March 29.-It is rumored that a considerable area in the west of Orange Colony, which was swept after Prinsloo's surrender, has now been reached by the Boers, who will be thus supplied with grain.

Preparing for Winter. London, March 29.-The Secretary for War has received a telegram from Lord Kitchener to the effect that any comforts which private individuals might desire to send out to the troops in view of the approaching winter in South Africa would be most acceptable, and should be despatched as early as possible.

Sham Boers. Havre, March 29.-The French police have arrested a batch of individuals wearing the Boer costume, and trying to imitate their language, while offering for sale, at all prices, salvage goods. The story they told the credulous population in the country towns through which they passed was that 200 Boers had seized two British vessels, that they had brought part of the cargoes to France to sell, and that they intended to return to the Transvaal with the proceeds. In Havre they offered what they called a tall-man for toothache. They were all natives of a village near Rouen.

Sir Alfred Milner Travelling. Bloemfontein, March 28.-Sir Alfred Milner, escorted by an armed train, has returned to Transvaal Colony.

London, March 28.-A despatch to the War Office from Gen. Kitchener, dated Pretoria, March 30, says that a train was derailed by a mine near Pan. Two hundred Boers who were advancing to loot the train were slain, and a loss of 100 killed. The British sustained no losses.

A train of empty cars was wrecked last night at Ollantsfontein. Nobody was hurt.

Fifteen hundred horses and other stock from the Orange River Colony have been brought in recently. The troops making the captures killed seven Boers, wounded nine, and captured seventy.

Gen. French reports from Vryheid that between March 16 and 27 his command has killed or wounded 17 Boers and taken 51 prisoners. Ninety-three burghers surrendered. The British also captured 100 rifles, 5,950 rounds of ammunition, 475 horses, and much other stock.

Chasing Kritzinger. Cape Town, March 31.-The column of Col. Goring's "Gables" and De Lisle are still actively engaged in pursuing Commandant Kritzinger. It is said that this Boer commander has despaired of being able to cross the Orange river.

The negotiations for peace between Lord Kitchener and General Botha have severely hampered Gen. French in his operations in the Eastern Transvaal. While the negotiations were in progress the Boers seized the opportunity to break through General French's lines in small parties and steal to the northward.

It is believed that Gen. Botha and Viljoen practically agreed to accept the British terms of surrender, but when the Boer commandants met they were contemptuously rejected.

Natal's Claims. Cape Town, March 31.-The Natal press is anxious to learn what the Government is doing to represent Natal's claims to the territorial expansion when the time comes to consider the settlement of the war questions. It is believed there is a good prospect that the Utrecht and Vryheid districts will eventually be given to Natal.

Baden-Powell at Cape Town. Cape Town, March 31.-Gen. Baden-Powell has arrived here.

Prinsloo Captured. London, March 31.-A special despatch from Standerton says the Imperial Light Horse, under Col. Wallace, have captured Commandant Prinsloo, and a convoy of 23 wagons. Commandant Englebrecht, the despatch says, has surrendered. The British are sweeping the eastern Transvaal clear of everything useful to the Boers. All standing crops have been destroyed, women and children are being cared for. Five hundred of them have been conveyed to Utrecht, where their wants are being well attended to.

Refugees at Pretoria. Pretoria, March 31.-A considerable number of Boer refugees, men, women and children, continue to flock into the city daily from the outlying districts. They are being sent to the detention camp at Irene.

A train from Johannesburg was fired upon near the Kaalfontein station on Thursday night, but except for the wounding of two miles, no damage was done.

A train going east was derailed by the Boers near Balmoral last night, and four of the trucks were destroyed.

Merriman's Warning Words. London, March 31.-John Xavier Merriman, one of the Cape colony statesmen whom the Salisbury Government has denied a hearing before the House of Commons relative to the South African situation, granted an extended interview yesterday afternoon.

"When Gen. Botha made his great concession, offering to negotiate upon a basis of modified independence for the late Republic, he had his opportunity. It should have been seized with avidity. Complete self-government should have been eagerly granted instead of the semi-autonomous system which we offered. The Crown colony administration is a most odious form of despotism. Against this the Boers will fight indefinitely. They will never submit to it any more than the Briton would submit to it if the situation were reversed."

My colleagues and myself recommend that the Boers be invited to renounce their willingness for the Boers to relinquish absolute independence, that South Africa should immediately be federated in the manner of Canada and Australia. That whole country is in the melting-pot. It should be moulded into a self-governing commonwealth. No other scheme promises the fairest future.

"This Boer war is one of the saddest tragedies in history. Its devastation and misery beggar description. The Transvaal Colony it has destroyed everything but hate."

"Three years ago these countries were prosperous, and were rapidly becoming civilized. The Boers are sending their sons to our universities and giving us all their trade, but unless Britain mends her ways time will never see that our Empire will die in South Africa. Germany will be our heir. Already Germans are deeply rooted there, and they only await an opportunity to hoist their flag from Zambesi to the Cape."

Queen of Portugal With Roman Catholic Church Against Him. London, March 31.-When the King of Portugal came to the throne, the Queen's funeral he received a deputation of Protestants, to whom he made a speech, promising a continuation of the enlightened policy of religious toleration in his dominions. The speech was manly and courageous, and was widely reported. It was commented upon in Portugal, and while it elicited the enthusiastic approval of the Liberals, it served to accentuate the feud between the King and the religious orders, which was originally a feud between the interference of the Jesuits in the secular affairs of the government of that country.

The first unhappy result of this friction was trouble in the Royal household itself. The Queen taking sides with the Church. According to advices just received from Lisbon, this breach has widened, and the Queen is said to be a probability of a separation of the Royal couple.

LE COMPTE HELD. Charged With Trying to Shoot His Former Mistress. Montreal, Que., March 30.-Armand Guilbert, who cut a great figure in New York society a few years ago, while masquerading under the name and title of Le Comte de Perugini, has been arrested in this city on the charge of attempting to shoot his former mistress, Madame Andre, and was sentenced to thirty days in jail. Word has been received from the Paris police that the man is wanted there for forgery, and he will be held long enough to allow the French police to act.

Cossacks and Workmen. Vienna, March 31.-The Lemberg Journal, in a description of the riots in St. Petersburg on Sunday last, says that 800 workmen marching along the Nevski Prospekt towards the Winter palace, singing revolutionary songs. The Cossacks attacked them, and, aided by infantry, dispersed them after a struggle, in which several on both sides were killed. Proclamations have been displayed calling the people to arms, but there has been no response.

Premier Roblin, of Manitoba, has gone to the Arkansas Hot Springs, where he will spend several days for the benefit of his health.

Experiments with fast electric trains between Berlin and Hamburg show that a speed of 125 miles an hour can be attained without difficulty.

AUSTRALIAN BUSH FIRES.

Terrible Scenes and Much Loss of Life.

CHILDREN FATALLY BURNED

Men and Women Fight the Flames Continuously for Thirty Hours-Narrow Escape of Trains-Over Three Hundred Miles of Fire-The Property Lost.

Sydney, N. S. W., March 29.-South Australia and Victoria, after simmering for a week under a heat wave which raised the temperature to 109 degrees in the shade, have been visited with a series of the most disastrous bush fires the country has ever known.

In the Mount Pleasant (S. A.) district 50,000 acres of grass land have been destroyed by a fire which lasted three days and covered an area of nearly 100 square miles, doing upwards of £10,000 worth of damage.

The town itself was only saved by the desperate labors of the people, women as well as men, who fought the flames continuously for thirty hours, beating down the burning grass with long green boughs whenever it seemed possible to make a gap in the onward sweep of the flames.

Driven by a fierce gale from the northeast, the fire advanced like a whirlwind, swallowing everything in its path, and it was only when the gale slackened that there was any chance of checking the tide of destruction.

Sheep and cattle, maddened by the blinding and biting smoke, rushed in hundreds into the heart of the fire and were burned to cinders; horses and cattle perished by scores, and the fire was spent only a few caudal benches on the blackened plains were left many thousands head of live stock.

Fires broke out also in the south-east of South Australia, in the Mount Gambier and Narroconnore districts, doing damage to the extent of some £4,000. The homesteads are mere piles of ruins, and the settlers have been practically penniless.

In Victoria, to the terrible story of grass and stock destroyed in Warragatta alone 2,500 sheep were consumed-must be added a mournful loss of life.

In the Braxholme district six children were caught between two advancing columns of fire and burnt to death. The train hand perished, and upwards of twenty other lives being roughly put at twenty-six, though it is feared the total may be larger, and in stock (chiefly sheep) the loss is estimated at 10,000.

Byaduk and Lower Byaduk townships have been almost wholly destroyed. People with their clothing burning fled to the creeks, and dams and stood there while the fire swept over them like a hurricane.

On one sheep station 2,000 sheep were roasted alive, 600 standing huddled together in the open, and further on 2,000 sheep were charred to cinders, and in the district it is estimated that 10,000 sheep have perished.

In the Birregurra district the charred remains of three little boys, sons of a settler, were found near their home. They became separated from their people and were caught up bravely as they could, until blinded by smoke and flames playing around them, they fell hopeless and confused to die within a few yards of each other.

Trains Dashed Through the Fire. In the Wangaratta district a train was caught in the flames, and as it would have been certain death to all on board, the driver blew the whistle and ran at express speed through the burning bush. Many of the passengers were badly scorched, and the cars were blistered and charred, but, happily, no one was hurt.

In the northeastern district the fire swept over an area of 300 square miles. Trains along the railway line that crossed between the fire, and hundreds of sheep were destroyed. Up to the time of writing seven lives have been lost, and reports state that the fires are still sweeping through the country.

At Queenstown, in Tasmania, the locality in which are situated the works and mines of the Mount Lyell Company, fires have been burning since January 25, and for the past week the bush has been a fiery furnace for miles around.

Houses were unroofed by the gale, the town caught fire, and several houses were burned; while twenty or thirty huts were swept away. Along the valleys, over hillsides, roaring down the gullies, the flames swept with a frightful roar; while the crack and boom of burning trees added to the scene of terror.

Found Infant's Body. Woodstock, March 31.-Some boys playing on the creek which crosses Vanstair's avenue this afternoon found the body of a well-developed child. It had been wrapped in a newspaper and deposited in the culvert, under the sidewalk. The size of the child, and the fact that a bruise was found on its temple, leads the authorities to believe that it was murdered. An inquest will be held on Monday.

Cemetery Building Burned. Montreal, March 29.-The residence of Ormiston Roy, superintendent of the Mount Royal cemetery, was destroyed by fire last night. All the records and other papers belonging to the cemetery were in the building but were saved.

ROLAND REED IS DEAD.

Member of the Household Shoots at His Majesty.

HE FIRED AT THE CZAR.

MAN THEN KILLED HIMSELF.

London, April 1.-A despatch to the Morning Leader from Kieff says it is reported that an officer of the household attempted to assassinate the Czar. He fired at His Majesty, but missed. He then shot and killed himself before he could be arrested.

London, April 1.-A despatch to the Daily Telegraph from St. Petersburg says that the headquarters of the Committee of the Revolutionary Movement has been raided, and the whole body, consisting of seventy-two members, captured. The police surprised the committee at night. They made a desperate defence, firing at the police, but were finally overcome. The police found quantities of proclamations.

It is reported that severe riots occurred during the last few days at Kieff, but were quelled by the military authorities. No further particulars are available.

EXPIRED ON THE STREET.

Sudden Death of a Well-Known Driver at Woodstock.

Woodstock, Ont., March 31.-Mr. Conrad Seltzer, one of the best known drivers in the county, dropped dead on the market square last night at 6 o'clock. Mr. Seltzer had been in the best of health up to yesterday, when he complained a little. Yesterday afternoon he became involved in a dispute over some hogs in the Royal Hotel, with John Lindner, a farmer, which greatly excited him. Two hours after, he was walking on the square, when he fell and expired in five minutes.

MRS. DELPIT SCORES.

Judge Holds Civil Law Must Be Respected.

Montreal, Que., March 30.-Judge Archibald rendered an elaborate judgment in the Practice Court this morning in the Delpit case, placing the civil law in marriage above ecclesiastical law, and Mr. Delpit will have to ask higher courts to interfere with the internal affairs of a church of any creed, but parties in the church had a perfect right to go to any legalized authority to get married if they wanted to.

TOO LATE TO HELP GORDON.

Delay Involved in Testing the Canadian Voyagers on the Nile. In the fourth of his "Careers of Danger and Daring" papers, the April St. Nicholas, Cleveland Muffet tells of an interview with the chief of the Canadian voyagers that took place in the Nile valley. The Nile, ten days later to retrace its course. Jackson made clear to him what important duty was given the Canadian voyagers in the Nile campaign. Mr. Michael Mackay, a failure in taking heavy-laden boats up the cataracts Lord Wolsey proposed to decide whether the troops for Gordon's relief should go straight up the Nile or around by the Red Sea and the desert. It was the river if they succeeded; it was the desert if they failed; and twenty thousand soldiers waited at Alexandria in a fever of impatience while Jackson and his band, with some hundreds of voyagers from other provinces, let it be seen if their training on the St. Lawrence would serve against the perils in ancient Egypt. During the Nile rebellion Lord Wolsey was confident it would, for he had found out what stuff was in those men. Still he dared not start his army until it was certain those formidable cataracts could be surmounted. And that meant a month, let the men strain every nerve at their paddles and hauling-lines-a month to wait, a month for Gordon to wait.

"Oh," said Jackson, gloomily, "if Lord Wolsey had only trusted us without the Nile, there was no nothing, sir, in that Nile River we hadn't tackled a hundred times as boys right here in the St. Lawrence. When you talk of cataracts it sounds big, but we got rapids all around here, just plain every-day rapids, that will make their cataracts look sick. Of course we did it-did it! But when we got up to the top of the whole business, where was our whole army? Back in Alexandria, sir! And it makes a man sad to know that those boys in Khartoum were dying, and that one sees that ground there may be for such lament on turning up the dates of this unhappy Nile expedition, and the heart aches at the sight of those dumb figures. Think of it! The relief-party reached Khartoum about Feb. 1, 1885-too late by less than a week. Khartoum had fallen; her ruins were fresh smoking, the long siege just ended. And when at last British gunboats, firing as they came, steamed into view of the tortured city that had hoped for them so long, there was no General Gordon within walls to thrill with joy. General Gordon was dead, cut down ruthlessly by the Arabs a few days before-killed on January 27, with his countrymen so near, so short a distance down the river that their camp might almost have been made out with fieldglasses. What a difference here a little more hurrying would have made, a very little more hurrying! Ten days, six days, four days, would have saved these precious lives, and the whole campaign might have ended gloriously had more trust, as Louis Jackson says, been placed in those staunch Canadian pilots."

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TWO EATEN BY RATS.

Brother and Sister Found Dead in Rooms at Jersey City. Jersey City, N. J., March 30.-The bodies of an elderly couple named Meade were found in their rooms at No. 152 Virginia avenue yesterday. Both were badly decomposed and had the appearance of being eaten by rats. Their disappearance several weeks ago caused suspicion, and the police were notified today.

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ROLAND REED.

actor for the past 24 hours was in a state of coma. From his infancy Roland Reed was brought up in the atmosphere of the footlights. He was the offspring of a leading American theatrical family, and when only six weeks old made his debut, being carried on the stage of the Walnut Theatre, Philadelphia, in a baby part. Later on he became an usher in the Arch Street Theatre, Philadelphia, and his ambition and close study secured him a place behind the curtain as a member of Mrs. John Drew's stock company. This was the school in which he received his stage education. After this he drifted into legitimate comedy parts, and was the first "Koko" in the American production of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera, "The Mikado." His latest play was "The Wrong Mr. Wright," in which he was starring when he became so ill that he had to remain in St. Luke's Hospital, where several operations were performed upon him in the hope of saving his life. He was born in Philadelphia in 1852.

IN MARTYRS' PLOT.

James Stephens, the Fenian, Interred With Honor. Dublin, March 31.-The funeral of Mr. James Stephens, leader of the Fenian movement of 1866, who died here last Friday, took place today, the remains being interred this afternoon in Glasnevin Cemetery, in the presence of a great assemblage of people, including delegates from the various national organizations.

Mr