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# BOERS ACTIVE.

British Lose 750 Men in a Sharp Engagement at Roodeval.

ALL COMMUNICATION IS CUT OFF

From Roberts and Troops Are Hurried Forward.

BOERS CLAIM A VICTORY.

Kruger Re-establishes the Boer Capital in a City of Tents—His Body Guard Captured.

[From Tuesday's Daily.]  
London, June 12, via Skagway, June 18.—All is dark as regards the movements of the troops in South Africa. Since the 6th inst. all communication with Roberts' forces located north of Kroonstadt, has been cut-off. The news came like a thunder clap, particularly since it has been learned that the closing of communication was attended with heavy losses.

A cable from Cape Town dated the 10th, tells of heavy fighting near Roodeval in which the Derbyshires lost a total of 700 men, 500 of whom were taken prisoners.

Kelly Kenny is hurrying all available troops northward, which indicates danger of another Boer raid.

Fifty thousand troops are within 50 miles of the marauding Boers north of Kroonstadt and are expected to make short work of them.

Boers Claim Victory.

London, June 12, via Skagway, June 18.—A Boer telegram claims a British defeat at Donkerfont, on the southern extremity of the Free State border. The Boers still cling to Laing's Neck.

Buller, by the execution of a flank movement, has concentrated his forces on the Keip river. Buller wired on the 11th that he had anticipated a movement of the enemy, who to the number of 3000 had prepared to occupy an important defile.

New Boer Capital.

London, June 12, via Skagway, June 18.—The village of Machadorp has been officially declared to be the Transvaal capital. It is little more than a swollen city of tents.

Krugers' Body Guard Taken.

London, June 12, via Skagway, June 18.—Krugers' body guard of 1000 men has surrendered. The surrender occurred in the Ficksburg district.

Ashantee Expedition.

London, June 11, via Skagway, June 18.—The Ashantee relief expedition finds the rebel forces strongly fortified. The fight at Kebwai continued for a long time. The enemy was finally dislodged, but the British were compelled to retreat to Kwisa after a loss of 100 men.

Chinese Emperor a Prisoner.

London, June 12, via Skagway, June 18.—The Chinese emperor sought the aid of the powers to release him from the imperial palace, where he is virtually a prisoner of the empress dowager. He suggests a joint protectorate of the powers. Foreign troops have seized the railroads leading to Peking and are endeavoring to open communication with the capitol. Russia is purchasing large quantities of supplies and everything points to an early outbreak of hostilities.

Gold Commissioner's Court.

Mukey vs. Phillips was the title of a case set for hearing in the gold commissioner's court this morning, but as Mr. Phillips was not represented the case was continued till the 29th inst. The case involves the relocation of claim No. 115 below or Sulphur.

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Woes of a Forsaken Wife.

There is in Dawson today probably the most irate woman that has ever trod the sidewalks of the Klondike metropolis. She is Mrs. Staton, who says she is the lawful wife of Claude Staton, the well-known variety showman who for some months past has been treasurer of and a stockholder in the Orpheum Show Co.

Claude stood at the door of the Orpheum theater and took tickets last night, but if all reports are true the job will be open to a new man tonight.

It is said that between 2 and 3 o'clock this morning, and while the tweedledee of the tweedledum was hushed in repose that the festive Claude and Miss Frankie Evans, a dance hall acrobat, quietly left in a small boat for the Gretna Green of the Yukon which is supposed to be just over the line. Claude's motive was not so much to get across the line as to get away from Dawson—anywhere, so it was away from Dawson.

His sudden dislike to longer remaining in Dawson began yesterday morning about seven minutes after the arrival of the steamer Yukoner, which carried to the city the original Mrs. Staton, who was not in a strawberry and cream mood, she having heard on the outside rumors to the effect that the nest which was hers by right of marriage was being warmed by another.

Hearing of his wife's arrival and of her dire threats against him and the winsome Frankie, Claude kept himself as scarce as possible yesterday. It seemed to be the intent of his wife to head him off if he attempted to leave on the Hannah last night, she being said to have announced her intention to shoot him full of punctures if he attempted to board the steamer with his enamored. But as he did not board the steamer, the outraged wife decided he would keep until another day, and her vigil was, therefore, relaxed. But her reckonings were at fault, for when this morning crossed the threshold of time Mrs. Staton learned to her surprise, chagrin and a very explosive brand of wrath and indignation that her husband and Frankie had "faded" during the night.

Mrs. Staton will probably follow down the river on the next steamer.

Hannah Leaves.

The steamer Hannah sailed last night promptly at the time advertised. She carried all the passengers her register allowed and left many disappointed people who clamored for passage on her. Yesterday tickets which originally sold for \$70 were transferred to others for \$140 by people who were induced to await the sailing of the next boat.

An immense throng of people witnessed her departure, vociferously cheering their outgoing friends. The Yukon Field Force band played inspiring music and their uniforms gave the touch of color necessary to make the scene complete.

Paul Bordman came within an arm's length of the boat and had to climb aboard from a canoe as the Hannah had cast off her line, while Bordman was deep in meditation, probably rehearsing a farewell spiel which he was about to deliver to the crowd. This is the only time he ever lost an opportunity of that nature and it will probably rankle within his breast for many a day.

It is not known what boats will follow the Hannah of the A. C. Co.'s fleet as the Susie, Sarah, Louise and possibly the Bella may arrive the first from below.

The Susie and Sarah are boats built after the same patterns as the Hannah and cost to construct something like \$30,000 each.

The John Cudaby is expected from St. Michael about July 1st. She is in the service of the N. A. T. & T. Co.

The steamers Sybil and Victorian were reported to have left Lebarge this morning, but were not seen passing Hootalinqua. Passengers on those boats have been transferred from the Canadian which has been acting as a transfer from Whitehorse to the foot of Lebarge.

The water is rising gradually, but slowly in the upper river. The temperature is now about 48 degrees at all points above with a storm threatening.

District Court.

In the case of the Queen vs. Sepovitch, accused of hay stealing, several witnesses were examined this morning, but when the case was closed at 1 o'clock nothing new had been brought to light.

Counsel will address the jury during the afternoon session, and the case will then be left with it.

The Soggs attempted murder case will be taken up tomorrow morning.

# M'TAVISH GONE.

Judge Dugas Declares Senkler Innocent of All Charges.

WOODWORTH SEVERELY REBUKED.

No Further Charges to Be Heard by the Commission.

ONLY TWO WITNESSES HEARD.

The Long Drawn Out Investigation of the Senkler Case Is at Last Brought to a Close.

The investigation of the charges preferred against Gold Commissioner Senkler by D. S. McTavish is finished, at least so far as the commission appointed for the purpose is concerned. After a brief, though not uneventful session last evening, Judge Dugas declared the case closed.

Shortly after 8 o'clock the judge took his seat and the first of the two witnesses examined was called.

Dr. Simpson was sworn and asked to explain what his transactions or connection had been with the claim known as the "Potter claim," in which Mr. Mahon pretends to have been interested.

The witness stated that it was during the month of January, to the best of his recollection, 1899, that he had been called by U. S. Consul McCook to treat his hands which had been frozen. While there in his professional capacity he had met Mr. Mahon, who called to ask Mr. McCook to intercede with Commissioner Fawcett in his behalf regarding the reopening of his (Mahon) case. Mr. McCook's hands being in such a bad condition, the consul had requested witness to see Commissioner Fawcett regarding the matter, which request he had complied with. As a result he had been told that the case had been disposed of; but, as witness was leaving Mr. Fawcett had said he might say to Mr. Senkler, who was then commissioner, that if he (Senkler) chose to reopen the case, it would not be regarded as a discourtesy by Mr. Fawcett. Later witness had been given a letter and asked to hand it to Mr. Senkler, which he did, and Mr. Senkler had told him that he would write Mahon.

Dr. Simpson said that the suggestion that Mahon give Consul McCook an interest in the property in question as remuneration for his services had been imparted to him, but that he had no recollection of having made any such suggestion. He (Dr. Simpson) had been given no interest in the property; had never asked; had done what he had in the case solely for Consul McCook.

Witness further stated that he had afterwards been asked by Mahon, who came to him crying, to once more ask Commissioner Senkler to again reopen the case. He had done so and Mr. Senkler had refused, saying the case had been finally disposed of.

In reply to a question as to whom he had acquired his interest in the claim from, witness stated that he had come into possession of his interest in the property through Mr. Hurdman, who had given him a letter to Mr. Burritt from whom he had received papers of title. He had redeemed a one-fourth interest to Hurdman.

The next witness called was Chas. Bifquin. The witness took the stand and was sworn, but before he could be questioned Mr. Wade asked for the sheriff's return of Mr. McTavish. Sheriff Eilbeck stated that Mr. McTavish could not be found and it was believed he had left the country.

Witness Bifquin then testified as to the manner in which he had staked, and after many delays and some expense had acquired title to a fraction laying between 16 and 17 Hunker. Nothing of any importance was brought to light by his evidence, saving his denial that he had given any remuneration to either the gold commissioner or any one in his office.

When this witness had been dismissed, Judge Dugas said that he saw

no reason for keeping the commission open longer. Mr. McTavish was gone, other witnesses, Smith and Laport could not be found.

Attorney Woodworth felt himself in a somewhat embarrassing position, owing to the non-appearance of his client and frankly admitted that there was no use in continuing the investigation further, as he said he had nothing under his hand which would in any way tend to throw discredit upon Mr. Senkler. Judge Dugas then proceeded to read Mr. McTavish's charge, who, he said, had been guilty of agitating the whole country without any excuse whatever. That he had testified, under his signature, to things utterly false, that he had said that these charges against Mr. Senkler were, to his knowledge true, and that they had been proven untrue. Something Mr. Woodworth said in reply about Mr. McTavish having been mistaken, seemed to rile the judge who forthwith began pouring the vias of his mighty wrath upon the head of the attorney, whom he accused of making insinuations against others and thus creating unwarranted feeling.

"Why don't you make your charges to Ottawa in writing like a man?" demanded the judge.

"Oh, I don't need to be told to make my charges like a man," said the attorney, springing to his feet. "I have made no charges against anyone else, but when I do"—and the unfinished sentence was more eloquent than if it had been spoken.

Mr. Woodworth said that he felt it no more than justice to Mr. McTavish to say that it was possible that he had not left the country. "There is a person here who says he saw Mr. McTavish last evening," he said, then paused and looked towards Joe Clarke. The witness was not called for.

Mr. Woodworth then asked if further charges were permissible, and was told that the commission was closed.

Will Bide Awee.

Mrs. Prather, a lady who is listed as a witness in the Soggs case which is to come up for hearing before the territorial court tomorrow, was quite indignant at not being permitted to start for Nome on the steamer Hannah last night, especially as she had purchased a ticket and her baggage was all checked and aboard. Her baggage was also found and taken off; but as it happened only half an hour previous to the time of the Hannah's departure, it is not known whether or not the lady was able to dispose of her ticket.

For a Volunteer Company.

The large number of gentlemen in Dawson who have been for some weeks past active in the work of organizing a volunteer militia company are about to reap the reward of their labor, as a recent telegram from the commissioner of the department of militia testifies. The telegram was received by Commissioner Oglivie, whose secretary, Dr. J. N. E. Brown, has kindly supplied the Nugget with a copy reading: "Volunteer company will be organized if you have qualified officers."

No time will be lost in perfecting the organization of what will prove as fine a volunteer company as can be found anywhere on the soil of Britain.

POLICE COURT NEWS.

Capt. Scarth filled the magistrate's chair in Police court this morning, the first case up being that of T. H. Hoggood who had poured deeply of belligerent hooch, the effects of which caused him to defy the world in general and swear by all that is good and holy that he could lick all comers. In court this morning Hoggood did not look like a man who would tackle a whole precinct single-handed; far from it. He was the embodiment of meekness, and plead guilty in all humility. A fine of \$10 and costs was imposed, which amount was paid by a friend of the erstwhile scrapping man.

Duncan McPherson was brought over from the jail and confronted with the charge of cutting loose a wood-laden raft which had been moored to the river bank opposite the Dominion saloon. The evidence against him was very conclusive, but pending additional information, the case was continued until this afternoon.

T. T. Morell was up on a charge preferred by Henry Bruck to the effect that on last Friday Morell did steal from a sluice box on claim No. 1 above discovery on Gold Bottom a nugget to the value of a fraction over one dollar. With all the earnestness of a man who had been robbed of everything he possessed between the azure dome and the bowels of the earth, Bruck told how he had heard Morell and another man at a distance of 300 feet plan to rob him of the precious nugget which lay in the sluice box a foot and a half below the upper riffle. Mr. Bruck could not see the nugget of the value of one dollar from a distance of 300 feet, but he could see suspicious looking movements. Being a connoisseur on nuggets, he could also tell a Gold Bottom product from any and all others. A legal luminary appeared for Morell and, notwithstanding the serious demeanor of the prosecution, the defense appeared to look upon the whole matter in a light and airy manner. After hearing the evidence for the prosecution, the case was dismissed as a false alarm.

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# FELL DEAD.

Assistant Manager of Klondike Corporation Dies of Heart Disease.

ALASKA CITIES ASK INCORPORATION.

Want to Take Advantage of a New U. S. Law.

NEWSPAPERS RAP JOE MARTIN

Toronto Globe Scores the Would-Be Lt.-Gov.—Thinks the Latter Has Forfeited His Seat.

Skagway, June 18.—Robert Hall, assistant manager of the Klondike Corporation, Ltd., dropped dead at Bennett on Sunday. His death resulted from heart disease to which he was subject.

Want to Incorporate.

Skagway, June 18.—Both Juneau and Skagway have applied for incorporation. Both cities are taking hurried legal steps in order to incorporate before July 1, and thus secure 50 per cent of the Federal taxes paid by each for school and other municipal purposes.

Guilty of Murder.

Skagway, June 18.—Jim Hansen, the Indian who confessed to assisting in the murder of Bert Horton and his wife at Haines-Mission, was convicted today of murder in the first degree. Hansen at first pleaded guilty, but afterwards withdrew the plea and substituted a plea of not guilty. The jury considered the case for an hour and brought a verdict of guilty in the first degree.

Rapping Martin.

Ottawa, June 12, via Skagway, June 18.—The Toronto Globe deals editorially with the defeat of Joe Martin in a caustic manner. It says that the Martin government is now defeated and it will be found that the lieutenant governor made a very serious mistake in appointing him at the head of the ministry. He dismissed a ministry not charged with dishonesty or flagrant wrong doing of any kind. The dismissal was condemned by the legislature. He chose as his first minister a man who by almost unanimous vote of the legislature did not possess the confidence of the body. It is therefore obvious that he assumed grave personal responsibilities and assumed large risks in staking everything on an appeal to the people. "It may be contended," concludes the Globe editorial, "that the stake was so large as to include his own political life and that the people in pronouncing against Martin, have pronounced also against the lieutenant governor." It is generally believed that McInnis will be succeeded by Bostick.

Dr. Grant's Visit.

Rev. Dr. R. S. Grant, of Almont, Ontario, arrived on the Yukoner on a visit to the scene of his former good work. Dr. Grant came here first in the spring of '98 when he founded the First Presbyterian church of Dawson and organized the congregation. He also founded the Good Samaritan hospital, and both institutions exist and flourish today as monuments to his worth as a progressive Christian man. Dr. Grant brought with him a silver communion service, a present from his Ontario congregation to the congregation at this place. He was gladly welcomed by his many Dawson friends. He will remain for several weeks, returning to his outside home before the close of navigation.