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Colonist Sleeping Cars for passengers, with ordinary baggage, will be attached to train leaving Toronto at 2:00 p.m., and will run through to Winnipeg.

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THE BATTLE FIELD

Makes Soldiers Think of Saving Their Souls.

Private Burrell Tells how he Came to be Converted—Anxious to see Some Fighting.

John M. Wemp, of Ounah, has received the following letter from Private Burrell, dated Belmont, Feb. 3:

Dear Jack—I am sorry I had not time to see you before leaving for the African war, but if we do not meet on earth again I hope we will meet in heaven some day. As I do not know how soon I may be called away by a bullet I have been converted and am prepared to meet my Maker at any time. A man must be prepared on the battle field, for when you see your comrades dropping around you it makes you think of where you will go when your turn comes. So I made up my mind to do something in the way of saving my soul, and I did, and I'm ready to meet my Saviour.

The letter then goes on to say that no Canadians have yet been killed nor have they had any serious fights. It also repeats the details already published of how Private Burrell and a lance killed a Boer sniper with 150 empty shells beside him. The Boer pleaded for mercy, but they executed him, the lance running his lance through the man's chest.

I suppose you are having it very cold just now, continues the letter, but we are having a very hot summer, but we are not working for you now and can't run away whenever I like. If I did I would be shot. We are just as much kept in as if we were in cells for murder. We cannot leave our camp grounds without permission from our captain. Write soon.

WRITTEN ON FEB. 10.

Daniel Martin, of this city, also has a letter from Private Burrell, dated Feb. 3, just on the eve of leaving for the front. In it he says:

I send my best respects to the boys and to my friends in Chatham, whom I had no chance of seeing before I left for London to enlist. I am sorry to say I have not heard from any of them yet. I wish I were home in time to take part in the elections, but I am going back in time for the Dominion convention. We came here to Belmont on Dec. 9 and are still at the same old place. There were three chances to send us to the front but for some reason the colonel did not take advantage of them. But now we are brigaded with the Highlanders and Shropshires, two of the best regiments in Africa, and as soon as to the front range we will be sent to the front with them. We have been doing garrison duty nearly three months. Troops pass here for the front doing nothing but fatigue work from morning till night. However, in a few days we will move forward and have a chance to show our friends what we are made of. Lord Roberts said he was surprised to see us on garrison duty yet. He thought we were all ready at the front, having sent orders for us to go to Modder River three days before he came through. We were sent to Africa to fight and we want to do something. The only thing we have been in so far have been with little bands of Boers who broke away after the last battle. We get word which way they are moving and so head them off and take them prisoners. But all the fighting we have done does not amount to much.

A PROFITABLE EVENING.

Last Monday evening, at the Christian Endeavor of Holy Trinity Church, a very interesting and profitable hour was spent. After the opening devotion exercises the subject, "Missionary work in South America," was taken up. Miss Edith Tackaberry gave a very instructive paper on South America as a country. Rev. R. Sims gave an address on Peru as it was in the sixteenth century when first invaded by the Spaniards, and the life, customs and religion of the people at the present time. Miss Gertrude Hall read a very interesting paper on that part of America, viz. Paraguay, where a young missionary, Mr. Westgate, who is well known in Trinity Church, has taken up that great work. She told of how the natives, once savages, had been converted and become Christians and were now preaching the gospel to others. Talent money was then given to the members of the C. E. for this purpose.

During the evening a duet, by Misses Baxter and Side, and a solo, by Miss Fielder, were very acceptably rendered. Misses Fielder and Side are the clever pupils of Miss Baxter. The meeting closed with prayer.

THE RED CROSS SOCIETY.

A very successful meeting of the Red Cross Society was held Monday evening, about fifty ladies being present. The fee was placed at 25 cents, and committees were formed to carry on the work. It is hoped many more will join the society, so that articles may be sent to the boys at the front as soon as possible. On March 23, the proceeds to be given to the boys from Kent county. The ladies will meet to sew on Saturday afternoon in Christ Church school-room at 3 o'clock, when the purchasing committee will have the work ready. The following were the committees formed, the first lady named in each case to be chairman: Receiving Committee—Mesdames Rodd, Gray. Purchasing Committee—Mesdames Stegman, J. L. Bray and Sam. Glenn. Entertainment Committee—Mesdames O'Hara, Rispin, D. S. Paterson, Lewis, W. A. Hadley, London, Greening, Dunach, Pikey, T. K. Holmes, Kingsmill and Miss Stephenson.

Lieut.-Col. Mrs. Read, superintendent for the Women's Social work of the Salvation Army, will conduct special meetings on Thursday and Friday, March 22 and 23, in Chatham. Mrs. Read is one of the best known officers in the Army, and in connection with her work among the poor and fallen has travelled thousands of miles, conducting special meetings in their interests with the most eminently successful results.

BLENNHEIM.

John Pickering left yesterday for Toronto, on business.

The infant boy of Mr. and Mrs. John Jack has passed away to the great beyond.

Jas. Shaver has bought out his partner, Dan Gray, in the laundry business.

The Harwich council met in the township hall on Monday and transacted considerable business.

The anniversary services of the Methodist church were held last Sunday and proved very successful.

R. J. Powell and Jas. W. Baird are leaving for the west next week, where they will go ranching near Calgary.

Messrs. Green and Ramsden, of the town, will leave shortly for the north-west, where they will start ranching.

Rev. J. W. McLaren and Jno. S. Laird were in Windsor yesterday, attending the meeting of the Presbytery.

On Wednesday night a sleigh-ride party of young Blenheimites visited Mull and spent an exceedingly pleasant evening.

A large and successful sale was held at the residence of R. Elliott & Sons yesterday, previous to their departure for the north-west.

A capital patriotic concert will be held at Cedar Springs on Friday night, the residents of this town will attend and contribute.

Major Peter Haggart, grain and provision merchant, reports that market quotations are very steady and deliveries comparatively light.

Miss Lizzie Russell, formerly of the public school teaching staff here, has taken a position as book keeper with the firm of Morse & Jack.

Thomas Coatsworth, brother of the late Caleb Coatsworth, residing two miles out of town, was suddenly taken sick yesterday, but is somewhat improved today.

The recent proceeds of the recent successful patriotic concert in Blenheim were \$123, which has been forwarded by Mayor Haggart in its entirety to the Red Cross fund.

The local (Catholics) will hold an At Home next Thursday evening, when a social program will be provided, to be followed by the presentation of the veterans' medals.

A meeting of the Presbyterian Christian Endeavor will be held at the residence of Mrs. J. H. Ferguson to arrange for the raising of funds for the purchase of a piano.

Two large and enjoyable sleigh-ride parties of young people went out to Blenheim last evening, one to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Steele, in Ridgewood, and the other to the home of Mrs. Bass, Chatham.

Manager S. Wilkie, of the Opera House, has closed a contract for the production of the play, "The Widow Brown" on Thursday, the 15th inst., instead of Friday as previously announced. This is a capital comedy and should draw a good house.

L. M. Appleford has purchased the entire plant of The Tribune newspaper from Robert Appleford, and purposes expending a considerable sum in adding to its equipment. The Tribune is one of the best county newspapers in this district, and the plant is an exceptionally fine one. Under the energetic efforts of Mr. Appleford it will undoubtedly continue to grow in prosperity and influence.

A meeting of the Harwich Union of Young People's Societies in the Presbyterian Church last Friday. The convention was a most successful one, and it was decided to divide the union into two workable districts, the South to include the Blenheim Societies and five in the county, and the other eight in the Northern district. The meeting will be held on April 17 to draft a constitution for the Southern organization.

"Ill weeds grow apace." Impurities in your blood will also grow unless you promptly expel them by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla.

TILBURY.

March 14.—Miss Violet Sudler was in Chatham yesterday.

The Salvation Army will give a Hindu-Burmer in Anderson Hall, next Tuesday evening, 20th inst.

The infant child of Henry Richardson is very ill.

A business meeting of the Epworth League was held in the Methodist church last evening and new officers were elected.

Mrs. H. Marulay, of Chatham, is the guest of her sister here, Mrs. (Dr.) Ferguson.

The Daily Planet is on sale at John-son's Drug Store.

THE DAGGER AND THE CROSS.

Robert B. Mantel will be at the Grand Opera House Saturday evening, March 17th, presenting his successful romantic drama, "The Dagger and the Cross." Probably no player of our country stands in greater favor than Robert Mantel. Since his advent as a star, he has been a continuous producer of those scholarly works which make the theatre a temple of art and education. Not only is he himself an actor of acknowledged ability, his mountings are finished and correct, and his ensemble of presentations perfect. He carries a large equipment and costumes his plays with marked taste and fidelity. "Shakespeare, of course, is his great master, but, as a writer, he selects from the best; Dumas, D'Annunzio and Sardou are his favorite authors; their works have received conscientious and have never been better presented in this country. The events with which "The Dagger and the Cross" is concerned are romantic in the highest degree, and are given the setting of England in 1666, a place and time having the picturesque character calculated to touch the imagination and stir the blood. The company which Manager Mantel has engaged to support his play is said to be the strongest with which he has ever been surrounded.

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The Coming Spring

THE GORDON STORE heralds its advent by shipments of New Prints, Gingham and Muslins just received. Our Annual opening of Printed Cotton Goods for Spring and Muslins is a tonic to shoppers. This year they are in great variety and beauty as to pattern, and being bought before the advance will be found at our old prices.

Calicos

27 in. wide Indigo Prints, warranted, per yard..... 5c
27 in. Prints, Pink, Blue, Red, Green, Buff, Lilac, etc., per yard..... 7c
29 in. wide, a good line of Wrapper Patterns, fast colors, per yard..... 8c
32 in., a choice variety of Crum's Prints, for waist, etc., per yard..... 10c
Walter Crum's Best Prints, newest styles, etc., per yard..... 12c

Ginghams

Strong, good washing, fancy checks for Children's wear, per yard..... 5c
Fine American Ginghams, warranted colors, per yard..... 7c
Imported Superior and Mercerized Ginghams, per yard..... 12c
Apron Checks, with or without borders, at 12c, 10c and..... 8c
New Duck weaves in checks and end stripes

Muslins

Fine Printed Dimities, new patterns, colors warranted, 15c, 12c and..... 10c
Rather early to say more in this line yet
LA BELLE PIQUES—Odd lengths of those goods from Merrimack Mfg. Co., in variety of colors and styles..... 12c

All the new Standard Patterns on hand
WILLIAM GORDON Stand by the Standard Patterns

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East of Standard Bank. Telephone 164.

WALLACEBURG.

Mar. 14.—A continuation of last week's Division docket was concluded yesterday.

Quite a number attended the assembly last evening.

Capt. W. G. Scott's new steam barge is being fitted out rapidly and goes into commission about May 1st.

She will be put on the Georgian Bay route.

DRESDEN.

Mar. 14.—James Thatcher, of Ridgetown, was in town yesterday.

The town hall floated its handsome new flag yesterday in honor of the capture of Bloemfontein. The bells also rang for a short time.

Thos. Land is away on a business trip up North.

We regret to lose from Dresden our popular station agent, D. Anderson, who has left with his family for Harrow. While here Mr. Anderson has made for himself many warm friends who join in wishing him success in his new home.

Two loads of young people drove in from Wallaceburg last evening. One load enjoyed a pleasant time at the residence of Jamin Lawrence and the other at the rink.

TWO LARGE BOXES

Were Yesterday Forwarded to the Boys in South Africa.

Their Contents Were Generously Contributed by Many Patriotic Citizens.

Yesterday afternoon two immense boxes containing all manner of comforts and even luxuries for the Kent county boys at the front were expressed by Charles Macdonald, Detective A. H. Skirving and four B. Brook via Canadian Express to New York. The boxes were placed on board the steamer "Maria," sailing directly for Cape Town on the 10th inst. The contents are the result of one day's canvass by these gentlemen. One more could easily have been procured had time permitted, but the needs of the boys were too urgent to permit even an additional day's delay. The Maria is a fast sailing vessel and is expected to reach Cape Town in a few days. The committee in charge have written personally to Sir Roderick Cameron, of New York, asking him to see that the boxes are carefully forwarded. The contributors who supplied the comforts for the boys at the front are: Thos. B. & Son, C. Austin & Co., The 2 T's, Wm. M. Stone, Wm. Gordon, Northway & Co., Wm. Somerville, Geo. B. Douglas, H. G. Reed, Mayor T. A. Smith, A. F. Falls, B. Malcolmson, Geo. B. Hyatt, A. I. McCall, C. O. E. A. Mounter, D. Gorrie, J. A. Thompson, Geo. Simpson, Mrs. Smythe, Geo. Taylor, Jas. Innes, Central Drug Store, Wm. Bennett, J. E. Johnston, Ivor E. Brock, Geo. W. Sulman, Geo. Young, E. C. Burt, M. J. Smith, Miss Lizzie S. Jan, Jennie Nichols, Louise Kuntz, McCorvie & McKernan, J. W. Hales, Thibodeau & Jacques, J. W. McLaren, Wm. Foreman, The Planet, The Banner Printing Co., Messrs. Cassie and Annie Holey, E. E. Bywater, F. Chapman, E. D. Pringle, B. McNaughton, R. D. C. Pringle, B. McNaughton, Skirving, Chas. Macdonald.

If any names have been omitted from the foregoing list it is from inadvertence and in the haste of preparation.

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, etc.

Ask for Minard's and take no other.

BRITAIN PLEASED

At Lord Salisbury's Reply to the Two Presidents.

The French are Furious Over the Order to Send Cronje to St. Helena.

London, March 14.—The Times, commenting editorially this morning upon the reply of Lord Salisbury to the message from the Boer president, says: "The government have given the only conceivable reply to the extraordinary Kruger-Steyn telegram, a reply which will be hailed with profound satisfaction throughout the empire. We are sincerely glad to see the attitude the United States has assumed in transmitting the proposals. Washington's services, of course, have been declined, but declined, we need hardly say, in the same cordial and friendly spirit in which they were offered."

"The news that Gen. French commands Bloemfontein is an instructive comment on the preposterous character of the Boer pretensions."

Most of the papers express sentiments similar to those of the Times. The Standard says: "It is hard to treat with any seriousness an appeal which ignores the palpable realities of the situation. So far as it is meant for diplomatic use abroad, the appeal is a sheer waste of labor. Knowing outside views, the diplomats of both hemispheres will respect their time."

The Daily News says: Lord Salisbury puts the decision on the right ground. No other answer could be expected. The duty of the Liberal party will be to use its influence in the direction of tempering the future British sovereignty with the largest measure of local autonomy consistent with the security of the empire and the peace and equal laws and liberties."

The Daily Chronicle says: The worst enemies of the Boers could not have anticipated the full extent and audacity of their demands. President Kruger has been forced by the exigencies of his position to approach Lord Salisbury with a harmless intimation of his readiness to exercise his good offices. When he reads the correspondence he will feel thankful that he has not compromised himself with a cause that is now resolved into the arrogant obstinacy of Kruger.

COURTEOUSLY DECLINED.

London, March 14.—The United States government, at the request of President Kruger and President Steyn, has offered to the British government its services as mediator, with the view of bringing about peace in South Africa.

The interview between Mr. White and Lord Salisbury, was very brief, the premier confining himself to a courteous verbal declaration, without entering into details.

FRENCH ARE FURIOUS.

Paris, March 14.—The probability of Cronje being sent to St. Helena arouses in France a furious wave of resentment and criticism reviving memories of England's exile of Napoleon to the same island. The result is an outburst of more bitter hostilities than ever towards Britain. Cassim-Jerier said it would be rather cruel to send Cronje to St. Helena. England doubtless fears his influence upon the Dutch population in South Africa. His own people revere him. He is clever and brave. I believe he is a fatalist. The strong outlines of his character are more like Cromwell than Napoleon. Thought it is not my affair, I cannot help saying it would be a pity to send him to St. Helena. Henri Rochfort says:—"It would be an abominable outrage to send Cronje to St. Helena. Still, it would be in keeping with England's bullying attitude towards the Boers."

She will humiliate Cronje all she can."

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MISSION BAND ENTERTAINMENT.

A most enjoyable entertainment was presented under the auspices of the May Mission Band of St. Andrew's Church, in the Sunday school hall last evening. A delightful program was provided and refreshments and taffy furnished to the large attendance present. The program was as follows:

Chairman's Address—Dr. Charteris.
Quartet—Glee Club.
Violin Solo—Miss Rena Knott.
Recitation—Miss Hicklin.
Vocal Solo—Miss Norton.
Instrumental Solo—Frank Phelps.
Vocal Solo—Harry McLean.
Duet, Instrumental—Messrs. Marshall and May Taylor.
Flag Drill—13 young ladies.
Plate Solo—J. W. Wilson.
Vocal Solo—Miss Minnie Cumming.
Recitation—Miss Spenceburg.
Male Quartet—Glee Club.
Vocal Solo—Miss Kirkwood.
National Anthem.

THE PRESBYTERY.

Rev. Mr. Tolmie Chosen as Moderator at the Last Meeting.

Several Disputes Heard—Cald's Sustained and Inductions Ordered.

The Chatham Presbytery, at its quarterly meeting in Windsor yesterday, devoted considerable time to discussing church disputes. There is a serious rupture in the congregation at Rotary, Kent county, over the selection of a site for a new church. A long discussion in it was ordered that another meeting be held, at which a final choice is to be made.

The other row is over the salary of Pastor McIntosh, who has charge of two churches, Chalmers and Knox, in Dover township. Knox is assessed three fifths of the pastor's stipend, and Chalmers two fifths. The Knox congregation asked that the financial obligation be evenly distributed, but the Presbytery declined to make any change.

Rev. J. C. Tolmie, of Windsor, was chosen moderator for the next term; and six clerical and an equal number of lay delegates were named to attend the meeting of the general assembly in Halifax next June.

A call to Rev. Mr. Ross, of Manitoba, to the Dawn congregation was approved, and the past will be inducted April 11. The call of the Dresden church to Rev. Mr. Lindsay, of Oshawa, was approved, and the induction set for April 17.

SETTLERS' EXCURSIONS

Daily one way Settlers' Excursions during March and April from the Province of Ontario to points in Minnesota, Dakota, Montana, Washington, Kootenay District, Vancouver and North Pacific Coast points, via Chicago & North Western Railway. Low Rates. Quick time.

For tickets and full information apply to nearest Ticket Agent or address

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IMPORTANT BILLS.

In the Ontario legislature yesterday Hon. Mr. Latchford gave notice that he would introduce a bill providing for compulsory arbitration in certain industrial disputes. The class of companies involved are those enjoying public franchises, and there is no doubt the bill grows out of the London street railway troubles.

Lamden gave notice that on Thursday he would introduce two bills—one to amend the Public Health Act and the other to amend the act respecting slaughtering cattle and the inspection of meat and milk supplied in cities and towns.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.
Take Laxative Bronzo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. C. W. Grove's signature in each box.

Keep Minard's Liniment in the Home.

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