Christmas at Ladysmith

Greeting From the Boers-Shells Inscribed "Compliments of the Season."

Correspondent of the Morning Leader Tells How the Day Was Spent.

Biffee." This was fired at 5 o'clock, about an hour after sunrise. The enemy's monster on Imbulwana sent in six more shots in rapid succession, whilst his satellites sped in a few more on their own account. It did not amount to very much, but was sufficient to let us know subject was welcome, as it gave us fair Imperial Light Horse. Quite 200 childwarning that we had better not show ourselves in groups.

in the camps we have selected as the representing Great Britain, Canada, Ausleast exposed to shell fire. In spite of the tralia, and South Africa. Where the early morning cannonade, the usual youngsters came from was a marvel to Christmas morn services were held at the

Recting thunderstorms, which leaves us these mites have been unearthed none as quickly as they come, flooded the knew. The fact of the matter is they town with a brightness that struck me were literally unearthed. For eight long

Quite Unseasonable to the wishes for a merry Christmas which passed around the camps. But we soon found that the brightness of the day was in keeping with the lightness of our spirits. The only saddening thought in our minds was the one that in ten thousand British homes there would be anxiety and trembling on the score of our safety and of our welfare. What would send individually a few words of greeting and encouragement to friends far away over the seas! We caught the dazzling rays of the sun as it rose high in the beavens, and used them to flash the message to General Buller that we were happy in Ladysmith, and wished our comrades down country a joyous Christmas. And they heliographed us back

Heard the Message Before, yet help had not come. But there, today was Christmas Day; we wanted no worrying speculations.

which they added those of hope. "Shall

be with you soon" How soon? We had

reciprocal of our happiness, to

It transpired early in the day that we had received still other greetings, and from an unexpected quarter. Amongst the shells hurled at us early in the mornbeg two were picked up unbroken, and were found to be decorated with the Transvaal colors painted on them and the words "Compliments of the season" scratched in distinct lettering on the case of each shell. One of the projectiles witched close to the Imperial Light Horse lines those volunteers so detested by the Boers-and on the wooden plug which took the place of the fuse being withdrawn it was found to contain plumpudding; the other fell in the Indian ordnance yard, but as a suspicious wire protruded from the shell, it was thought st not to take the risks of its contain ing nothing more hurtful than seasonable deficacies. Although we cheerfully give the enemy credit for a vein of humor that no one could have anticipated would have come to light in his nature, it may be mentioned that the joke is

Not Absolutely Original. When we hombarded Alexandria our Ruejackets sent in shells labelled "a pill for Arabi!" "Inflexible mixture for the expsies;" while even later, when the British fleet in Chinese waters was sent perthward on the seizure of Port Arthur for the Russians, officers were surprised wisiting the ships' magazines to find projectiles chalked "A present for the Russians!" "Put that in your pipe and smoke it!" as well as several inscriptions which Jack affoat thad given undue preminence to the vernacular of the fo'

After a frugal breakfast-siege fare-"Faminy" was excused inspection and other duties which make camps the scene of continual movement from morn till night. He sat around in groups and talked of what he would do when he did "get at 'em." Or he induiged in such thletic sports as can be held in the few square yards he owns out of sight of the emy's gunners. Or he sang songs about "Trolu" and "There's only one girl in the world for me!" And I suppose his boughts went towards that girl. In this way hours passed until the

Mid-day Meal Was Served. Every soldier in the garrison received a biece of plum-pudding and an extra tot rum or of lime-juice to help him to for the day upon his memory. In these times, when an egg is a red letter and a potato a windfall, the recollection of a bexury that has become but an association

of the past is highly cherished. Several camps were paraded before the repast to listen to the reading of the Queen's message to the army in South Africa, which was received by heliograph the course of the morning. Other camps were drawn up later in the daysome as late as ten o'clock in the nightand so it happened that for houre on end the sound of ringing cheers rose over Ladysmith and was echoed, let us hope away to the hills where the Boers keep watch and ward upon us. If they heard the enthusiastic cheers given for Her Majesty and the boisterous shouts that went up on the call of "Ladysmith!" George White!" and "Our Officers!" the enemy must have thought that we were a queer sort of starving garrison. For mey go on fondly expecting that every day will be our last, as if day did not know that we should eat every horse in the town before knuckling under to hunger. Even then "Tommy" would not be ental.

satisfied unless he were given an opportunity of Cutting His Way

through the investing force. The afternoon 'was spent in making calls and receiving visitors. "Loved ones at home!" were remembered in most of the places, where men gathered to exchange the greetings that the occasion demanded, and as our minds constantly The Boers Are Concentrating in turned to their anxiety and worry the day was not 'overladen with gay thoughts, unbroken though our spirits remained. The Boers put in about a score of shots during the afternoon to spoil supposedly festive assemblages; but no damage of any sort rewarded their efforts

o make things disagreeable. After nightfall we gave ourselves up to the modified form of revelry to which we were bound by circumstances. "Tommy" sat around again in groups, watch-Our Christmas Day was heralded by ing the sheet lightning that followed the the Gordon awakener from "Puffing tropical heat of the day, and indulged in an occasional song. His officers met in their messes, and spent the evening in

A Few Organized "Smokers,"

by the aid of a piano or violin.

In town itself a Christmas tree was prothat the Boers did not intend to respect vided by Colonel Dartnell, of the Natal the great Christian festival. This timely Mounted Police, Col. Rhodes, Major Carnatification of the enemy's feeling on the ri Davis, and another colleague of the ren were brought by their mothers or by big sisters, and all participated in the distribution of valuable presents which Consequently, Divine service was held bedecked four enormous Christmas trees, everyone present. One may walk the streets of Ladysmith from Monday morning ill Saturday night without seeing half The brilliant sunshine, that only gives a dozen-on Sundays about a score will us brief respites at night and during the be met during the afternoon-but where weeks most of the poor little ones had spent interminable days at the bottom of shelter pits or in the depths of caves on the river side, and now they were drawn out under cover of darkness to come and clap their tiny hands and enjoy themselves in this blaze of a thousand candles, instead of being led back to their dirkened homes "to see if the house is broken," as a little Ladysmith maiden told me she was going to do when I met her at dusk one night toddling with her parnot we have given to have been able to ents from the river bank towards the town.

When the children had been

Sent Happy Away, as heavily laden with stories of how Santa Claus got through the Boer lines as they were with toys and presents, the older folk danced till midnight. A contentious device, "May the new century dawn with peace and happiness for which found a place amidst the many purely seasonable greetings, has stirred up such a discussion in town as to the date of the commencement of the twentieth century that the war and Buller's relief column are scarcely likely to be spoken of again between now and New Year's Day, 1900.

ERNEST W. SMITH. Ladysmith, December, 1899.

> THE MARKETS. (Revised every Wednesday.)

There is very little change in the market prices this week, meat and vegetables being plentiful. There is no variation in the prices of grain, and the retail quotations this week are summarized as follows:

Ogilvie's Hungarian, per bbl.\$ 5.00

Lake of the Woods, per bbl Leitch's, per bbl	5.00
Leitch's per bbl	5.00
O. K., per bbl Snow Flake, per bbl	0.000
Snow Flake, per bbl	4.40 5.00
Premier per hhl	5.00
Calgary Hungarian Premier, per bbl XXX Enderby, per bbl	4.50
Grain-	
Wheat, per ton Corn (whole), per ton	27.00@30.00 25.00@28.00
Corn (whole), per ton	25.00@28.00
Corn (cracked), per ton Oats, per ton Oatmeal, per 10 lbs. Rolled oats (B. & K.). Rolled oats (B. & K.)	22.00@30.00
Oatmeal, per 10 fbs	40(a) 50
Rolled oats (B. & K.)	04
Rolled oats (B. & K.), 770 sack	30
Deeu-	
Hay (baled), per ton Straw, per bale Middlings, per ton	15.00@18.00
Middlings per ton	50@ 75 20.00@25.00
Bran per ton	20.00@23.00
Bran, per ton	26.00@30.00
Vegetables—	20.00@00.00
Potatoes (new), per 100 lbs	1 000 1 05
Water cross per hunch	1.00@ 1.25
Cabbage, per 10.	3
Caulifiower, per head	10@ 15
Celery, per bunch	15
Water cress, per bunch Cabbage, per fb Caulifiower, per head Celery, per bunch Lettuce, 4 hds. for. Onions, per fb Onions, per fb Gherkins, per fb	25
Onious (nickling) nor Th	3@ 4
Gherkins, per lb	36 5
Gherkins, per lb	5
Carrots, per ID	1
Cucumbers, Island, 3 for	10
	10
Fish—	00
Salmon (smoked), per Ib	1216
Salmon (spring), per Ib Oysters (Olympian), per pt	12½ 50
	60
Shrimps, per Ib	50
Halibut per ID	8@ 10
Shrimps, per Ib Cod, per Ib Hallbut, per Ib Herring Smelts per Ib	5
Smelts, per In	10
Flounders	25
Orabs, 5 for	. 25
Farm Produce	
Fresh Island Eggs Eggs (Manitoba), per doz Butter (Delta creamery)	25 25
Butter (Dolta orojamora)	20 25
Dest Office	15@ 22
Butter (Cowichan creamery).	35
Cheese (Canadian)	18@ 20
Butter (Cowichan creamery). Cheese (Canadian) Lard, per lb	121/2@ 15
Hears— Hams (American), per fb Hams (Canadian), per fb Bacon (American), per fb Bacon (Canadian), per fb Bacon (rolled), per fb Bacon (long clear), per fb Shoulders, per fb	VA.
Hams (Consdian), per Ho	16
Bacon (American) per th	170 18
Bacon (Canadian), per Ib.	140 16
Bacon (rolled), per ID	12@ 16
Bacon (long clear), per lb	121/2
Shoulders, per ib. Beef, per ib. Mutton, per ib. Veal, per ib. Pork, per ib.	8@ 18
Mutton, ner Th.	1000 18
Veal, per ID	12@ 18
	10@ 15
bluit-	A Property of
Jap. Oranges, per doz Jap. Oranges, per box Bananas, per dozen	15@ 20
Ranguag non dozen	50@ 60 30@ 40
Oranges, per doz	60
Cocoanuts, each	10@ 15
Jap. Oranges, per box Bananas, per dozen Oranges, per doz. Cocoanuts, each Lemons (California), per doz.	25
	10@ 15 1.50@ 2.00
Poors 2 the for	1.50@ 2.00 25
Cranberries, per ib	1214
Muscatels	15
Week Namel Branges now don	OR

Muscatels Wash. Navel Oranges, per doz

Brant, per pair

J. B. Burr, of Ladners, is at the Ori-

To Oppose **Lord Roberts**

Force North of Bloemfontein.

British Troops Dispatched to Glen -- Watching for Buller's Army.

London, March 30 .- Boens are concentrating in force about 15 miles north of Bloemfontein in rear of Glen, and Lord Roberts is sending troops to engage them. pretty much the same fashion. There The Seventh Infantry Division and part of Gen. French's cavalry has been sent up to join the 14th Brigade, and the two where harmony was kept in good order cavalry regiments that are holding Glen and its environs. It does not seem probable that the Boers will give serious battle in the country north of Glen. Still their evident strength indicates more than a corps of observation.

In small affairs the Boers are daringly aggressive in all parts of the field of war. The Johannesburg mounted police, esteemed by the Boers to be their best mounted command, are raiding the country near Bloemfontein, Harassing the Farmers

who have given up their arms to the British, and carrying off cattle. A Boer report from Natal says that

a Russian soldier of fortune, Col. Ganetzik, with a hundred horsemen, is operating close to the British outposts on the western border.

The Boers have re-occupied Campbell and are in strength near Kings and Barkley West. They shelled the British camp at Warrenton on Wednesday, but moved out of range that night. Yesterday (Thursday) two British guns enfiladed the Boer trenches, quieting their

Lord Methuen and the forces that had been operating in the Barkley district been recalled to Kimberley by have Lord Roberts. No explanation has been given for this, but the mounted troops are dissatisfied at having been ordered

The Boers and disloyalists at Kenhardt have been dispersed and caused to retreat. General Parsons is about to enter the town unopposed.

Lord Roberts is making extensive arrangements to police and safeguard all the Free State towns in the territory oc-

cupied. Dispatches from Masenu assent that the Boers who returned to Ladybrand from Clocolan have

Taken Up Strong Positions and sent pickets in every direction to

part of General Buller's army will invade the Free State on that side. According to Pretoria advices, Mafeking was bombarded for seven hours on Tuesday.

It is reported in London in a well informed quarter that Lord Kitchener will be offered the post of commander-inchief in India, succeeding the late Sir Wm. Lockhart, as soon as decisive successes have been obtained in the Transvaal, and that Gen. Sir Archibald Hunter will succeed him as Lond Roberts's chief of staff. The Indian newspapers have been urging Kitchener's appoint-

The Daily Mail's Pretoria correspondent, telegraphing yesterday, says: "Al- them right and left as the column though it is true that the state mining engineer has made borings in the mines, I am officially informed that this is without the government's sanction, and the question of the

Destruction of the Mines

as a last resort has still to be discussed by the executive." The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Morning Post, telegraphing on Wednesday, says: "President Kruger boasts his intention to retake Bloemfontein within a week, and it appears probable that the Boers are advancing in force southward."

COURAGE OF CANADIANS. London Times Correspondent on the Fight at Paardeberg-The Sur-

rounding of Cronje. London, March 30.—The London Times correspondent, writing from Paardeberg, dead from some wound unnoticed in the describes the fierce rear guard action of heat of the fight. February 18th with Cronje, under Kitchener, during which the Canadians suffered so severely. After saying that the Canadians specially showed magnificent and almost reckless courage, the correspondent continues: "When once the battle had begun it had been almost entirely a soldiers' and regimental officers' battle, and the way the soldiers fought reflects the greatest credit on them. Exhausted by a week's marching and fight- review. ing, many of them without food or drink since the previous afternoon, their steadiness and courage could hardly be sur- pherdam were firing their last shots passed. Perhaps the most reckless bravery was shown by the Welsh, the Cornwalls and the Canadians, but all the regiments behaved splendidly, and it would be invidious to distinguish special-

The Flight of Cronje. led to the surrounding of Cronje. He day.

ly any single one."

"Cronje, lying in insolent security across the kopjes of Kimberley, heard that an army had broken at five points perdown asked a series of questions bearinto the State and was moving no one ing upon the various allegations concern- How the lads of Natal have been playing knew where. Accustomed to the drag- ing Premier Schreiner's attitude towards ging impotence of our advances when the war in the House at Lords to-day. unaided by a railway, he sent his outposts to stop us at the Modder and the of state for the colonies, replied that it Reit, but the men to whom the task had is unjust to say the Cape government been entrusted either found our scouts had declined to call out its forces. It before them or waited them in too lei- had called out the volunteers to the exsurely a mood.

Seventh Division filled the upper ford of clining to call out troops. Clearly it

the Reit; the Sixth laid its grip on the was much better that some of the

"Then during successive nights, the unseen arm was extended between the rivers and the Modder was seized. The relied on. great moment came when, with a band on either stream, the cavalry division for damages, the under secretary said was flung forward in a wide swoop to the government aimed to endeavor to the northeastward, and Kimberley was exact compensation from those who relieved almost without a shot fired or caused the damage. The question, he man lost.

"Cronje, who needs no instruction in such a matter, saw in the swiftness and the colonial government, which was re daring of the bands which had encompassed him, that he was playing at last co-operate with the Imperial government a master in the game of war, and with a resolution as swift as it was sound, flung over the hopes on which he had so long been building, threw his dreams to the winds and fled. It is not every commander that knows the hour for abandonment as well as the moment for assault, and is as willing to break his plans as to make them, but Cronje is one of them. Only his experience of our methods made him a day late. He still counted on our indecision and his security betrayed him."

THE RELIEF OF KIMBERLEY. Interesting Account of French's Ride to the Besieged City.

London, March 30 .- A detailed account f details which marked Gen. French's dash for Kimberley is now to hand. From Modder River, from Rensburg and from De Aar the cavalry, mounted infantry and horse artillery came in long lines, silently concentrating at Graspan and Honeynest Kloof. On Monday the march began, Ram-

dam, eight miles to the south, was soon passed and a sharp skirmish secured Devil's Drift on the right. After a halt of a day the column moved on. At Klip Drift the cavalry division halted a night. The breathless haste of a dash through the enemy's country, carried out with a rapidity probably without a parallel, left its mark on the horses, and the transports were hopelessly in the rear. Five days' rations and forage were carried by each man.

Moved at High Pressure

over the shadeless veldt, during the hottest hours of the day.

Day after day the cavalry

On Thursday, the 15th, at 10 o'clock the critical advance was made, and the shelling and capture of two laagers a few miles out of Klip Drift, on the northern side of the river, cleared the way for the junction of the force encamped on the Modder some five miles and burdened by debt, and settling on east of the border. This body was British soil, the British Columbia governcomposed of Kitchener's and Roberts's ment reserving a whole valley for their Horse and two more regiments of mounted infantry.

Before they entered the great plain of Alexandersfontein, the contingent from Modder River-the Scots Greys, Household Cavalry and two Lancer regiments-also joined the force, which now numbered some 10,000 men, seven battalions of horse artillery and three field hatteries.

nal for the great event of the day. The watch Basutoland in the expectation that plain is fringed with kopies. The kopjes on either side were held by Boers,

Poured Bullets and Shells

into the advancing mass, almost hidden under the horse's hoofs. These were it? Kruger?" quickly cleared of their occupants by the impetuous rush of the mounted infant-

Lieut. Sweet Escott of the 16th Lancers was the first officer to fall, shot dead at 50 yards by a Boer who received a lance through his throat almost before he could produce the invariable cry for mercy. Kopie after kopie was cleared, and the Boers were driven from

At the De Villiers farm, at the north end of the plain, the column halted and re-formed after watering the horses. They had come ten miles and broken the ring around the besieged town. The pace at which their advance had been made both minimized the casualties and prevented Cronje from appearing with 10,000 men to line the kopjes in the plain. The latter

Realized That He Was Defeated. and acted with his usual sagacity. By

the evening of this same day not a man of all the thousands of the investing force, beyond a few straggling bodies of men out patrolling or foraging when Cronje gave the order to retreat, was left on the hills and the ridges. Meanwhile the cavalry pushed on and

the pace began to stell. Horse after horse that had struggled on so far fell There was no time to pause, and about

three miles on the first sight of Kimberley burst upon the column through the fringe of trees. The long weary weeks of anxiety and hardship, the disappointment of Magersfontein and the heartsickness of deferred hope were alike forgotten. Kimber-

ley was relieved, and the remainder of

the march might as well have been a The Boers on the north of the town at the intermediate station and Kamfrom their great guns, in ignorance of their failure on the south, but those soon stopped and Gen. French entered the town, and within a moment it had put

out its flags and decorations. The panic that had been caused by continuous bursting of shells over every part of the besieged town vanish-London, March 29-Provost Batters- ed, and from the 1,200-foot level of the by has written to the Morning Post diamond mines thousands of women from Paardeberg of the movements which and children emerged into the light of

Premier Schreiner's Attitude

London, March 29.-The Earl of Cam-The Earl of Selborne, under secretary tent the Governor considered wise. "Gem. French swept the drifts with his While the Cape ministry had not on cavalry and his guns and the men who every point held views identical with beheld them fied precipitately. As French those of the officials responsible for the cleared the drifts other portions of his conduct of the war, it was quite unjust army loomed up to hold them. The

burgher forces should not be called out,

Regarding the question of the liability added, concerned both the colonial and Imperial government, but principally sponsible to parties injured and ought to to see that those who caused the dam age paid for it.

Mounted Rifle Dead. Montreal, March 29.-A cablegram from the Herald correspondent with the Canadian Mounted Rifles in South Africa says:

"Ramsay, of First Troop, Winnipeg died in hospital, inflammation."

NEW NAVAL STATION. New York, March 29 .- The naval authorities have decided that Guam, stra- White who kept it! And for all the Br tegically, is of scarcely less value than ish troops in South Africa! Hurrah Hawaii, and have begun the preparation Again and again! Please pardon all thi of plans to make it one of the most important naval bases on the Pacific. The projected improvements will involve an here to B. C. via Victoria, and there are expenditure of several millions for a breakwater at Port San Luis D'Apra, a I can shout. Verily it is a proud thing batteries for protection against assault, says a Washington dispatch. The department has just received complete surveys of the harbor and port of the island with exhaustive soundings at the port, and is making an accurate chart to has done what all good Can be used in laying down the public works. The project will be perfected by a board to sit in Washington, and an advisory board may be convened at

THE BELLA COOLA BOERS.

Guam to furnish additional informa-

To the Editor:-Some time ago your paper published accounts of meetings held in Vancouver by pro-Boer sympathizers, which your paper properly denounced. I regret to say that Vancouver is not the only place in the province where pro-Boer sympathies are publicly expressed.

You will no doubt be surprised to hear that in Bella Coola the great majority of the Norwegian colony, especially their leaders, openly express their sympathy for

the Boers. Such expressions of disloyalty coming from a people that have left a foreign country, where it was hard to get along, express benefit for three years, giving them free crown grants, exemption from taxes for four years, and spending thousands of dollars on public works for their benefit, giving them the exclusive right to wave the flag, "but," said he do that work themselves, privileges that there." It is everywhere. It is he British born subjects were not allowed, I | We all saw it arrive yesterday on a huge say that such expressions of disloyalty from these Norwegians are an ungrateful return for what one of Her Majesty's colonial governments have done for them. Their entry into the plain was the sig- If British Columbia is to be settled by people holding such opinions, it would be useless for the government to look to the good old flag fluttering in the breeze, them for assistance in a more serious

> One of the Norwegian colonists holding One day it appears a government is disloyal opinions says: "You're a nice lot of missed, the next that an almost unan British subjects! When we want money our roads who are we going to ask for

A TRUE BRITON.

SONS OF EMPIRE.

The following poem has been handed to the Times by Captain Walbran for publication. - It was written by Mr. W. E. Henley, and is one of the most popular war songs yet called out in the Old Country by the South African war. It has been set to music.

Storm along, John! though you faltered at first. Caught in an ambush, and held to the

worst. All the old countries were soon on the For they hadn't a son but rejoiced in his You had only to cart 'em some thousands

of miles. So you fell to your work with the calmest of smiles. And your ships with your children, you sent them along, Till you beggared the record-Hi! Storm

> along, John! Chorus.

Frenchman and Russian and Dutchman Her Majesty as a football, being kicket and Don Know the sea's yours from the Cape to Canton! Storm along, storm along, storm along,

Storm along, John! There was work to be done
With a foe in full blast ere you sighted a gun; gun; Soon the news came, that you reeled in

the brunt, But at home, by the Lord! it was "Who's for the front?" your whelps over sea, John-the whelps that you knew

For the native, original pattern true blue Oh! your whelps wanted bleeding, they cried to come on, And-Hark to them chorusing: "Storm. along, John!"

Chorus. Storm along, John! Storm along, John! Half the world's yours, and the rest may look on, Aghast, at the crowd from Quebec to Cevlon! Storm along, storm along, storm along, John!

Storm along, John! All your children are out: Melbourne and Sydney got up with a shout; Wellington, Ottawa, Queensland, their best Send, with Capetown and the fighting Northwest Horses, men, guns for you! India's a-flame!

the game! From Gib. to Vancouver, from Thames to Yukon The air is alive with you-Storm along. John!

Chorus Storm along, John! Storm along, John! Not in the best of the years that are gone Has the star which is yours so tremendously shone! Storm along, storm along, storm along,

Three Cheers For Ganada!

Letter From a Well-Known Victorian Touring Through Europe.

Continental Nations Do Not Share Our Correspondent's Enthus. iasm at British Success.

To the Editor: Three times three cheers for Canada! For "Bobs," who gave u the chance! For the Royal Canadian Regiment who took it! And again for Buller who relieved Ladysmith! enthusiasm, coming to you late day as it does, but it is a far cry from no Canadians known to me with whom to say that one comes from Canada! Like all of the best of things it is tinger with sadness, however, and severa names familiar to me have appe among the killed and wounded brave fellow countrymen-the regin thought it would do, its duty, and h done it so well that the world rings its performance. In Rome the Engli community were full of its praises drank to the Canadians when we brated together at dinner on the eve of the arrival of the news of Cronsurrender. The Union Jack was co spicuous on that day, but it is to seen wherever one goes. You may take on the wings of the morn

ing And flop round the earth till you're dead, But you can't get away from the tune that they play

To the blooming old rag overhead." Not that my wings have grown, neither am I on the flop, or round the world, but the fact nevertheless remains that what Kipling has said, is, as far as I have learn literally true. Such has been my experience, and in Rome, where the flag was in such evidence, Canadians had something to do, both directly and indirectly, with bringing it there. You may have noticed that the first lord of the admiralty wound up his speech the navy estimates the other day with the remark that he was not going to battleship. Surely there are not many more beautiful sights on this earth than the magnificent bay of Naples, wit Vesuvius actively smoking away in the background and a great stately ship steaming slowly in firing a salute, with

Talking about active volcanoes, who is this one reads of provincial politics mous vote of want of confidence in the new premier is passed, and the Lieut, Governor reads his speech on proroguin the House to empty benches and a hoo ing gallery! Truly, some of the South American administrations have lusty rivals in those of British Columbia! But away with politics. It may be mention ed here, not for the first time perhaps that the unsettled state of politics in the province is far from producing a good effect in London. It doesn't need any great perception to become aware of

Possibly it may interest your reader

that fact.

to hear of the feeling with which Great Britain and the war are regarded here on the continent. In France there is no question as to the anti-British spirit prevailing, thought I would not go so far as to say that it was universal. Inci-dents are not wanting to indicate it. For instance, in Nice, not so very long ago sixty English visitors at one of hotels departed in a body for the Italia Riviera. They said they would no spend another centime in France if the could help it. Presumably the French press were the cause of this. In the same place we were amused to see some Frachmen who had been much tickled Storm along, John! Storm along, John! by a cartoon in Le Rire, represen by Kruger, turn to the bulletins in th Credit Lyonnaise, a few yards further on, containing in large scroll the views of Lord Roberts's successful movemen and General French's then probable war bulletins are posted up in t Casino. What is the cause of it, you ask "Fashoda and jealousy," as a Russia traveller expressed it. In Germany are not in much better favor, accord to the press and the people one me who have been travelling there. Here drowsy Italy it is different. True it that one of its papers did compare position of the British Empire at noment of its reverses with the ancier Roman Empire just before its decline but on the whole the easy-going success sors of that mighty Empire are with us However it doesn't seem to "cut ver much of a figure" whether the power

are with us or not, and in any cas Great Britain's circle of friends Europe was never very large. Poor old Italy, for she is both, partic larly the former. Here in her large city there are certainly more sig progress. If one asks why it i there is so much poverty and idlenes and want of push, he is invariably m with the reply that it is the climat ways the climate. But the and Romans, how did they do so well? "The climate again-it must have chang W. H. LANGLEY

Naples, March 4th, 1900.

Work on the extension of the Belli Bay & British Columbia railroad will 80 begin. The branch starts at Sumas, miles from New Whatcom, on the inter tiona boundary line, and runs eastward the American side twenty-four miles Boulder Creek, where the Cornell are situated. This, says the Seattle Ti will extend the road from its pres minus at Sumas to the Mount Baker ing district. The cost of constructing extension is estimated at \$600,000.

\$1.5

VOL.

Lord

THE

Officers --Br

London, Springfontei sages are k an early ac there is the the guns ar commander

The alarm among the has induced remove to fl are not goi

Dea

LORD London, posted a d reading as "Bloemfor In continu March 31s able delay of the c place twer telegraph c several time fered with there has b

force is c enemy. gallantry battery re cross fire at the officers casualties Several gall bring in tw had been kil horses were and Northu and Rober tirement of to the cross cavalry tw

withstood t enemy w within a hr "'U' bat tillery, was drift and made prise fired. Maj major succ fusion. the same t row."

Lord Rob dispose of covery of the Boers water works they intend long to cov and wagons the absence garding the cavalry ma their chanc

Bushman still occup the British the Boers

AP

London, Lorenzo M nouncing t Lieut. Len liers, who toria, is fo tails of th getting ove street. "The m narrative.

attracted H we manage the Delage in ditches. have had f instance w river and s ing alarme ing for us miserable The morn chilled boo supplies of had been ception of rations.

the railway