The Chief Staff Officer of Militia

Canada:-Paardeberg Drift, Feb. 25th, 1900. Sir,-I have the honor to report upon the part taken by the battalion under my command in the engagement at Paardeberg on the 18th instant.

The battalien arrived near Paardeberg Drift with the 19th Brigade at 6 s. in. of the 18th instant, having formed the rear guard to the brigade in its march during the night from Klip Drift, a distance of 21 miles. Within half an hour of the arrival of the battalion orders were received to be ready to proceed at 7. a. m., and at 7.20 a. m. the battalion moved out to support the artillery about a mile away. The men in the meantime had

had a biscuit and a cup of tea. CROSSED THE RIVER. Hardly had the battalion reached the place designated than it was ordered to move to the drift and cross the river. This was done, and the crossing began at about 8.30 a.m. The crossing began at about 8.30 a.m. The current ran nine miles an hour, while the water was sufficiently deep to reach up to the men's arm-pits. Two crossings were used about 50 yards apart, over one of which a rope was stretched, by which the men passed across by holding on to it, and at the other the men passed over in face with linked arms. The comthe other the men passed over in force with linked arms. The companies as they crossed were pushed forward, and at 930 a. m. "A" and "C" companies were in the firing line at about 500 yards from the enemy, who occupied the woods along the near edge of the river, but were totally hidden from view. They also occupied a series of dongas, enfilading our left flank; but this was not discovered until towards afternoon, when they eft flank; but this was not discover-ed until towards afternoon, when they disclosed (themselves, although they were quietly "sniping" from that direction all day. "D" and "E" com-panies formed the support, while as 'B,' 'F,' 'G' and 'H' came up they formed the reserve. The remainder of the brigade was disposed of as un-der.—The Duke of Cornwall's L. I. on our right, the "Gordons" and Shrops

der.—The Duke of Cornwaii in It is one our right, the "Gordons" and Shrops L. I. on our left, in the order named, but on the other side of the hill, on our left and behind the artillery. The battalion, however, was practically alone, and during the whole day received are orders or instructions from ceived no orders or instructions from p. m., as noted later on. In addition to the 19th Brigade, the 3rd (Highland) Brigade was

on the south of the river, besides ar-tillery and mounted infantry. FIRING BEGAN at about 9.20 a.m. from the enemy's right, and continued along their front towards the centre. The advance of the battalion took place over perfectly open ground, somewhat undulating, and with no cover save the inequalities of the ground, and a few ant-hills. The firing line attained a position from the enemy varying from 400 yards on the right to 800 yards on the left, where it remained until late where it remained until late in the afternoon. After the establishment of the firing line, the enemy's fire was for some time very severe, and Capt. Arnold, who at the time was

Col. Otter's Official

Account

OF THE THREE ENGAGEM NTS
LASTING FROM FEB. 18 TO
FEB. 27.

The following are Col. Otter's official reports to the militia department regarding the engagements of Feb. 18th, 20th and 27th, at Paardeberg:
The Chief Staff Officer of Militia, Canada:—

The College Official doing most excellent service, was mortally wounded, and many others hit.

During this time three or four men on the reserve ("H" Co.) were wounded at a distance of over 1,600 yards. At about noon "D" Co. reinforced the firing line, and shortly afterwards "E" and part of "B" Co. also reinforced, the remainder of "B," "F" and "G" companies becoming supports, with "H" still in reserve. Only one Maxim gun could be crossed, and that was soon got into position by Captain Bell on the rising ground on the left at a distance of some 1,000 yards, where it did most excellent service during the day, being in a position to keep down the fire of the enemy, who occupied the dongas on our left. A battery of field artillery occupied the hills on our left rear, and shelled the enemy's lines at intervals during the day. The fire discipline of the several companies engaged was excellent, and perfect coolness, as well as accurate

day. The fire discipline of the several companies engaged was excellent, and perfect coolness, as well as accurate shooting, was maintained throughout. Throughout the day the fire was maintained, at times being comparatively slack and then severe. The enemy evidently had the ranges marked, as their fire at certain prominent places was so acc rate as to render them almost untenable by as. Interruption to our fire was occasioned several times during the day by the cry from beyond the right of our line to 'Stop firing on the left," as men in that part were being hit from the fire from our left. The fire complained of was, I am satisfied, from the dongas occupied by the enemy on our left, occupied by the enemy on our left, and not from our own men.

"FINISHED THE BUSINESS." At about 4 p. m. three companies of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infanthe Duke of Cornwart's Laght Inhan-try, under Lt.-Col. Allworth, came up, and this officer informed me that "he had been sent to finish this busi-lness," and "proposed doing so with the bayonet." He then asked for information respecting our own posi-tion and that of the enemy, which I

One company of the Cornwalls was One company of the Cornwalls was at once sent into the firing line, followed in half an hour by the other two, this reinforcement being received by a very heavy fire from the whole length of the enemy's front.

Al' 5 p. m., Lieut. Col. Allworth notified that a general advance would take place and about 5.15 p. m. the

take place and about 5.15 p. m. the whole force with the exception of parts of "G" and "H" companies which I held in reserts went forward with a rush. The fire of the enemy become interest and after an advance. became intense, and after an advance of about 200 yards effectively stop-ped our men, and no further progress

The foss to both the corps taking part in the charge was very severe. Lieut.-Col. Allworth was killed. The position gained was, however, held, and a continuous heavy fire maintainand a continuous heavy fire maintained until darkness set in about 7 p. m., when I gave the order to collect the dead and wounded and withdrew to the bivouse at the drift. The enemy also withdrew from their position at the same time to the Boer laager some two wiles norther street leaving a few two miles up the river, leaving a few men in the dong on our left, who continued "sniping" our collecting

parties until 10 p. m. Many instances of individual bravery were displayed. The collection of the dead and wounded of both our own bettalion and those of the Duke of own battalion and those of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry was made by parties of the Royal Canadians and continued all night. The duty was a most one rous one, and too much credit cannot be given to those who were en-gaged in it. By 7 a. m. of the 19th all dead of the battalion of the D. C. L. I., and the wounded sent to the rear. I. dead of the battalion of the D. C. L. I., and the wounded sent to the rear. I must here place on record the great services rendered by the Roman Catholic chaplain of the battalion, the Rev. Father O'Leary, who was present in the field all day, and towards the end in the firlust line, while during the the field all day, and towards the end in the firing line, while during the night he was prominent in the search for the wounded as well as officiating in the burial of the dead. Saveral of

7.258, Pte. Whingate, were out all night on this duty.

Another incident of goolness and pluck was that of No. 7.347, Private Hornibrook, who at daylight in the morning of the 19th instant, was down into the extreme right of the lines occupied by the enemy the previous day. He was unarmed, and came suddenly upon an armed Boer, looking for a stray horse. With great presence of mind Hornibrook pretended to be armed with a revolver, and called imaginary assistance at the same time demanding the man's surrender. The Boer at once submitted, and on being brought in proved to be one of General Cronje's adjutants, and a most important officer.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant, (S'gned)

W. D. Otter, Lieut-Colonel commanding Royal Canadian Regiment, Second Battalion.

THE ENEMY'S "POM-POM."

Wounding of Four Canadians on 20th of February

Paardeberg, February 27th, 1909. Sir,—I have the honor to report upon the operations upon which the battalion under my command was engaged upon the 20th inst., on which occasion four men of corps were wounded.

Following the revirement of the enemy from the position which he withdrew from on the evening of the 18th instant, the battalion was at 6 a. m of the 20th instant detailed for the outcost line and advanced

detailed for the outpost line and advanced to within 1,000 yards of the trenches in front of the Boer laager, the Shropshire ront of the Boer laager, the Shropshire Light Intantry being on our right, the Gordon Highlanders on our left.

The ground occupied by the battalion was quite open, and slightly rolling, but fairly covered with ant-hills.

The begin were served with tea and his.

The nien were served with tea and bis-cuits about 10 a.m., the cook wagon and water cart being brought up to within 200 yards in rear of the reserve.

An intermittent rifle fire was kept up all An intermittent rifle fire was kept up all day until about 4 p m., when that of the enemy increased, and their celebrated Vickers-Maxim gun "pom-pom" was turned upon us no less than five different times, but fortunately without less to us. The moral effect of the gun, however, is very great, and infinitely more disastrous in that direction than any other arm we have exidirection than any other arm we have ex-

The wounds received were entirely among men in the reserve, and from long range rifle fire about 1,700 yards. The day was a trying one, being very hot, while, owing to the enemy's fire, it was almost im-possible to get water forward to the men. It was the attempt 'to bring the water cart forward that first brought the "pom pom"

to bear upon us.

At 6 p m. the battalion was withdrawn to its bivouse thoroughly done out. The position occupied I have denoted on the sketch accompany my report of the action of the 18th instant, and a list of the wounded included in the general list.

I have the honour to be, sir, your obedi-

(Signed) W. D. OTTER, Lieut. Col., Commanding Royal Canadian Regiment, 2nd Battalion.

TEE NIGHT AT ACK.

How the Force was Disposed for the At tack-Forced a burrend r

Paardeberg, South Africa, March 2nd, 1900.

Sir,-I have the honor to report on the action of the 27th ultimo, in which the battation under my command was

In accordance with instructance received from the general officer com-manding the 19th Brigade, 9th Division, on the previous evening, the foision, on the previous evening, the following disposition of the battalion was made by 10 p.m. of the 26th inst. In the main trench running north and south from the niver, and beginning on the left, were placed "C," "D," "E," "F," "G," and 'H' | commanies, while on the extreme right was a party of thirty engineers. This trench was about 240 yards long, the right of party of thirty engineers. This trench was about 240 yards long, the right of it resting within 25 yards of the river and 500 yards of and 500 yards of the nearest Boer trench. The force placed in this trench numbered 500 afficers and men of the battation. "A" company remained on the south side of the river, where it had been detailed for patrol duty on the morning of the 26th, and was posted just opposite the line of main trench, continued southwards, while "B" company and a few details formed a reserve at the bivouac, some 300 yards to the rear, and the (wagons were fully 1,000 yards to the rear again. The continuation of the main again. The continuation of the main trench from where it turned to the northeast, was occupied by 200 of the Gordon Highlanders, and about 1,500 yards on our left was the Shrops Light Infantry.

THE PLAN OF ATTACK was that our six companies on the main trench, should advance on the Boer trenches at 2 a.m., the front rank of each company to move with fixed bayonets, with orders not to fire until fixed upon by the enemy while fixed bayonets, with orders not to fire until fired upon by the enemy, while the rear rank carried shovels, and picks with which to entrench; when the advance could go no further, and engineers on the right to give a base. At 2.15 a.m., the six companies, with the engineers moved forward, a distance of 15 paces being placed between the ranks, and an interval of one pace between men. The brigaone pace between men. The briga-deir was on the right, Lieut.-Col-Buchan and Major Pelletier being in charge of the attack, the former on the left, the latter on the right, the officer commanding in rear on the

The line advanced without interrup-The line advanced without interruption for about 400 yards, when it was met by a terrific fire from the enemy. The premature discharge of a couple of shots, just before the general full-lades served as a warning to many of our men, who instantly threw themselves on the ground; but the effect of the fire was disastrous to us; "H" company, being in the wood on the river bank, did npt suffer, but "G" and "F." companies, being in the open, lost heavily, the former having 4 killed and 12 wounded, the latter 2 killed and 9 wounded. "G" company was within 65 yards, actual measurement, of the advanced trench of the enemy, when the fire was opened on them, the of the advanced trench of the enemy, when the fire was opened on them, the companies on the left, "E," "D" and "C," being from 75 to 100 yards distant from a subsidiary trench in prolongation of the enemy's line. On receiving the snemy's fire the line

and returned it, while the rear rank

CURTAIN BARGAINS CURTAIN BARGAINS, CURTAIN BARGAINS CURTAIN

Dollars and Sense work Wonders At The Gordon Store

We have donned our Spring gala trim rather ahead of Dame Nature. Every day for some time past new goods have been arriving and we spread them before you as the newest of spring fabrics, a magnificent display of noveltus and new effects. Every department adds its quoto of attraction. We wish to show you many things to interest and profit you especially if you become a purchaser. Notice some few items:

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APRIL, the great Lace Curtain month of the year has come.

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Gorgeous Tapestrys, Cretonnes, Sateens, Art Denims, Art Muslins, Scrims, etc., from 61 to \$2.45 per yd.

All the new styles,

right begun by the party of the R. E. was 100 yards from the enemy's nearest trench, and covered by "G"

and "H" companies, made rapid progress, but those begun by the other

es, and retired on the old ones, leaving "G" and "H" holding the ground on the right, Lieut.-Col. Buchan being

the right, Lieut.-Cob. Buchan being the last to retire, which he did by the right. Daylight found "G" and "H" companies well entrenched, with the R. E. still pushing the work on. Firing continued on the right until about 5.15 a.m., when the enemy in the advanced trench made proposals to surrender. Our men being doubtful of the genuineness of the proposition, continued their work and firing fornearly ap hour. At about 6 a.m. one of the enemy advanced with a white flag when firing ceased, and the enemy began to come in by batches to

my began to come in by hatches to the number of 200.

THE SURRENDER.

Gen. Sir Henry Colville, command-ing division, had come up about 6.15 and directed the disposal of the pris-

mers, sending forward an officer into the nearest part of the Boer laager to-make terms of surrender, and the re-eult of which was the unconditional

capitulation of Gen. Cronje and his whole force, natabering upwards of

Captains Stairs and MacDonnell deserve great credit for their pertinacity in holding on as they did, that result of which undoubted by had a material effect in hastening the final result

The supporting companies of the Gordon Highlanders were not engaged, although the trench which pro-

ected them was subjected to a fairly heavy fire from the enemy. The bat-tallon of the Shropshire Light Infan-

try on our left fired volleys at long

PANY.

"Delays are dangerous."
who have poor, weak, impure should take Hood's Sarsaparilonce. It never disappoints.

WILLIAM GORDON For the lates' points Fashion get our Standard Sheets.

BARGAINS, CURTAIN BARGAINS CURTAIN BARGAINS CURTAIN BARGAINS, CURTAIN BARGAINS

Chatham's Only Millinery Store gress, but those begun by the other companies did not advance very rapidly, and after the battalion had been for some 20 minutes under fire, some one unknown catled in an authoritative tone "to retire and bring back your wounded," in consequence of which the left company failed to establish themselves in the new trenches, and retired on the old ones, leaving Now Our Rush for the Millinery Opening is Over We Are Ready For

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Among the new Hats and Bonnets. The new shapes, the new trimmings of all kinds will be found a complete stock of latest novelties in timed gauzes, colored crepons, taffeta silks, chiffons, muslin de soie, buckles, slides, fancy pins in rhinestone, gun metal, enamelled, jet, dull and bright.

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isn't in

that way on purpose

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Or the people's money saver has cailed to see you again with bargains for the above date, when we sha'l sell for Cash :-

5 lb. Pails of Jam......40c Granulated Sugar, per lb.5c 40c Gnn Powder Tea, per lb 25e Ib. Package of Corn Starels70 1 lb. Package of Laundry Starch.....7c No. 2 Flour, 12 lb sack 20c. 24 lb.

We shall also sell during the above hours:-

Tea Sets, Dinner Sets, Chamber Sets China and Glassware at prices that sel the goods to people who known bargan when they see one. A lot of § gallor Pitchers, usual price 25c, for 15c.

Phone 190.

Fresh Eggs For Easter

We are asking some of our country friends who are in the habit of bringing us eggs, to bring us this week, eggs that have been laid within two or three days.

In this way we shall be able to give you eggs for boiling, that we know are strictly fresh li's a little thing, a fresbegg, but it's a most important

Sliced Ham Marmalade

Juicy, seedless, sweet oranges, 25c and 30c dcz

McLaren's Cheese Roquefort Cheese

Fresh Soda Biscuits Choice Mixed Biscuits Fancy Mixed Biscuita

Fresh, crisp Lettuce.

Fine, pe Bananas.

H. MALCOLMSON

Rolled Wheat

AT ONCE LAID DOWN

try on our left fired: volleys at long range for some time after our attack developed, and materially assisted us. All the wounded were brought in be-fore daylight and sent back to the collecting station by our men, and the bearers of the N. C. S. W. bearer company and Naval Brigade bearers (H. M. S. Barrosen,) who rendered us every assistance possible in the ardu-ous service. The dead were buried close to where they fell at 7 a. m., by close to where they fell at 7 a. m., by the Rev. Father O'Leary, R. C. chap-lain to the battalion. That the duty entuiled Royal Canadian Regiment was most Royal Canadian Regiment was most difficult and dangerpus one, no one deny, and though the advance was not so successful at all points as was hoped for, yet the final result was a complete success, and credit can fairly be claimed by the battalion for such, as it was practically acting alone.

I attach a sketch of the positions occupied and a list of those killed and wounded in the day's operations. The night was startight with the moon in last quarter at 4 a.m. The various actions beginning on the 18th and concluding on the 27th Feb. have been denominated "Paarde-I have the honor to be, sir.
Your obedient servant,
W. D. OTTER, Lt.-Col., Commanding Royal Canadian Regi-ment, 2nd Battalion. THE ROCK BAND CONCERT COM-

At the First Presbyterian church, Monday, April 9, at 8 p. m. Tickets 25c.; children, 15 cents. The most novel and artistic musical entertainment ever presented to the public. Marvellous ringing rocks, swinging harps, musical glasses, gigilera, Westminster chimes, songs and readings. Record:Six months at Crystal Palace, London, Eng.; 343 concerts in New York (20th season); 3,650 concerts in in all. Endorsed by Dr. Storrs, of Brooklyn, Bishop Vincent, of Chautauqua, Dr. F. E. Clark, of Christian Endeavor renown, D. L. Moody, and a host of others.

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