

ning Mafeking.

man Attempted to
Works on Sat-
day Week.

tion Was Seized and
Was at Close
Quarters.

the Town in Doubt but
of Column is
Near.

May 10, (4:30 a.m.)—"Food
about June 15." The Lord
from Col. Baden-Powell,
mumdar at Mafeking, sent
arts under date of May 7,
er, the Boers attempted to
and it is possible that they
ough nothing is known of
of its results except through
ces, which have no coun-
The British relief column
ow. Ten days ago General
having difficulty in keeping
other owing to the approach
and when the last Asso-
despatch left, Mafeking on
Boers had killed on the pre-
of the horse guards and
ral of Col. Baden-Powell's
t horses. Major F. N. N.
at to the Morning Post from
date of May 7, this mes-
ing the Boers attacked na-
ual. There is an achang
ass the last."

May 16.—The war office has
following from Lord Rob-
ronstadt, May 15, 1 p.m.:
all reports under date of
oving well; there is deces-
ation is cheerful and food
June 10."

May 15.—A despatch to the
from Lorenzo Marques dat-
says: There is now no
here was fighting at Maf-
ing, but it is believed to have
of the garrison. All that
ained of a reliable character

using artillery attacked the
nday. Very soon the Kafir
in flames, some say as the
right, others as the result of
fighting at close quarters
ral and in the midst of the
the Boers gained possession
ation, from which point they
y brought their guns to bear
at close range. By a short
arrison, despite its attempt
succeeded in surrounding the
pers, who had captured the
the weak-kneed burghers
ing to the latest reports, the
hold the location in which
bably surrounded. The
that the Pretoria authori-
orders to General Bullen
place. As soon as the Bo-
in flames Boer bulletins of
the flying about everywhere
the weak-kneed burghers
came down here yesterday
ria produced for the edifica-
adulous Britishers. Two tele-
officials, one of which was
nyman and said:

Sooner Destroy the Country
than Have It British.

May 15.—Lord Roberts con-
line to the discussion going on
as to when the war will end.
wing telegram, dated Monday,
through a correspondent who
the direct inquiry: "I regret
not give any reply to your
as it is impossible at present to
ten the campaign may end."

of the other side is reported.
respondent to whom President
said: "Sooner than leave this
fall into the hands of the Brit-
destroy all our houses and
desert." (The relations between
raal and the Portuguese appear-
ing. The Portuguese consul
according to reports from
been ordered by President
leave the country. The Por-
tuguese making food and
outland has nearly destroyed
fulness of Delagoa Bay to the

quinta Macado, Governor-Gen-
erale of East Africa, is being
at Beira and the British of-
fice are passing through the show-
cortesies. The Lisbon cabinet
ood to count on British protec-
tion of Boer aggression.

OUR NEW COLONY.

ermitted With Part of the
Orange State.

May 15.—The Queen to-day in-
communication permitting trading
the South African colonies and
one of the Orange Free State,
by the British forces.

RS. BARKER DEAD.

in Bermuda. May 15.—Mrs.
Barker, wife of the Governor of
Lieut-General G. Digby Barker
at night of pneumonia, after a

WARM RECEPTION.

ers Did Not Think the Show
Hot Enough.

eg. May 15.—A small mob stone-
ivate car of a travelling light
troupe here after the perform-
ing. The show was adver-
the "hottest on earth," but fall-
up to the expectations of the
ment. Further trouble was ex-
pected, but the crowd was over-
the presence of a large number
men who gave the members of
any protection.

The Relief Of Ladysmith

One of Royal Engineers Tells
Of Difficult Tasks Buller
Had.

Bridge Builders Constantly Shell-
ed by the Boers With
Few Losses.

Mr. W. P. Allen, city engineer, has re-
ceived an interesting letter from his son
John, serving with the Royal Engineers
of Gen. Buller's army in Natal. It is
dated Ladysmith, April 14, and refers
to the relief of that town. The letter
follows:

Dear Father: I now take the pleasure
of giving you a few details of my experi-
ence in South Africa.
Having received orders for service,
we left the Old Country on November
4. Calling at Capetown for orders,
I had the pleasure of meeting my brother
William, and found him looking well and
healthy. That was our first meeting for
over six years.

Proceeding, we arrived, after a most
enjoyable passage, at Durban on Novem-
ber 28th, and then to the Natal base
of operations at Pietermaritzburg.
After fitting ourselves out with gear
and oxen we went on to Batour, arriv-
ing there December 10, and joining
General Buller's command. We have
been attached to his headquarters ever
since.

On December 15 we experienced our
first sight of actual Boer warfare.
Our reverse at Colenso was a severe
one, though whatever may have been
the cause of our defeat, we at least
knew that Buller's task had been one al-
most impossible to accomplish.

The Boers, however, naturally
ner it was entrenched and being protected
in front by the Tugela, a river flowing
the rate of about six miles an hour and
varying from 800 to 500 feet in width.
Our attack had to be made over an
open plain about three miles, and I won-
der our losses were not heavier.

Such was my first experience of war,
and it was anything but inspiring. I
can assure you.

We retired after the battle to Pieter-
maritzburg, where we were encamped and awaited
reinforcements. Our next move was via
Springfield, across the Little Tugela, to
Trichard's Drift. We succeeded in
crossing the river on January 17, and
after a little opposition, the Boers, how-
ever, found the Boers in strength about
two miles north of the river, their left
flank resting on an almost inaccessible hill,
known as Spion Kop, and occupying a
range of hills stretching to their right
rear for several miles. The Boers, in
the morning, took Spion Kop, but as
fast as our men took one position they
found the Boers in another. After six
days' heavy fighting, our infantry unable
to get support from our heavy guns on
Spion Kop, and water supply being nearly
two miles on the hills, the whole posi-
tion was abandoned, our troops retiring
most successfully to the south bank of
the river.

The next move was to Potgieter's
Drift and Val Kraant, a place about
ten miles west of Colenso. The fighting
was commenced by our heavy guns.
On the morning of February 5 we re-
ceived orders to construct a balloon
about one mile east of Kraant. Owing
to something I cannot understand, our
covering party was not as strong as ex-
pected to be, and we were subjected to a
heavy rifle fire the whole time we were
at work. A report got in circulation
among the troops that we were cut to
pieces, but like the proverbial stone, we
turned up all right, amidst congratula-
tions and praise for our work on all
sides. Our casualties were small, hav-
ing only three wounded, and ever since
our troop has been known through-
out the camp as the "armor-plated troop,"
owing to our good fortune in having so
few casualties. The Boers have a great
antipathy toward the pontoon troop,
shelling it on all possible occasions, but
except doing some slight damage to the
boats, which we quickly repair, we have
escaped unhurt from shell fire.

Our retirement from Potgieter's was
fortunately through the balloon party
discovering that the Boers had literally
a death-trap awaiting us; therefore we
turned our backs on the river and
tramped back again. I have to say it
was most disheartening. I can tell you,
all those retirements; still, we had the
greatest confidence in Buller, knowing
he would pull through if it was possible
to do it at all.

On February 14 commenced the fight-
ing which culminated in the successful
relief of Ladysmith. Colenso was again
the scene of the attack; with more
troops to command and a different line
of action or plan of battle, Buller suc-
ceeded in driving the enemy back, and
by little. The troops crossed the river
at two different points, by means of our
bridges, and the final stroke was given
on the anniversary of Majuba Hill.

The Boers, finding it too hot for them,
fled in all directions. Thus after two
weeks' hard fighting Ladysmith was re-
lieved, amidst great rejoicing, both in-
side and outside of the town.

We have constructed in all 17 bridges,
some being out here with the loss of
but five wounded—not a bad record up
to the present.

The Ladysmith garrison are being ac-
cording to the best possible practice for their
plack and determination in withstand-
ing the attacks made on them for such
a long period. The Boer position was
so situated that there was practically no
loophole for escape.

We are camped about three miles
north of Ladysmith, waiting for the
next move. I have only to tell you I
have enjoyed the best of health out here
so far, and up to this have come
through without a scratch. I have only
the von a short account of my experi-
ences out here, but hope some day to
have the pleasure of giving you fuller
details of the whole.

Yours etc.
JOHN.

During a recent session of the senate,
says the Boston Transcript, Mr. Pettigrew,
who is a tireless talker, insisted on using
the phrase "ad infinitum." He said he
was not a mathematician, but he had over-
heard this, and remarked: "The Sen-
ator is probably making the 1 short by save
the time of the senate."

All disorders caused by a bilious state of
the system can be cured by Dr. Carter's
Little Liver Pills. No pain, no constipa-
tion attending their use. Try them.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER.

Stated That He Will Run in Prov-
encher, Manitoba.

It is stated, says the Montreal Gazette,
that Mr. Laurier, M. P. for Prov-
encher, Man., has received important news
from friends in his constituency. It is
said that Mr. Wilfrid Laurier, while
conducting in his division of Quebec
East, will also accept the Liberal candi-
dature in Provencer, against Mr. Lar-
riere. It has been repeatedly declared
that the Manitoba school question has
not been settled to the satisfaction of
the Roman Catholic minority, and it is
now said that the Prime Minister will
take this occasion of testing the matter
once and for all. If Sir Wilfrid should
be able to secure election in the most
pronounced French and Catholic con-
stituency in the province of Manitoba,
his friends say that he will be truly in a
position to say that the Liberal govern-
ment has settled the school question
wisely and well, and that the settlement
has been approved of by Provencer.
On the one hand, Mr. Laurier, the
present M. P. for the division, who was
elected by a very large majority at the
last election, declares that he is by no
means alarmed even if so redoubtable
an antagonist as Sir Wilfrid Laurier
should attempt to contest the seat in
question. Mr. Laurier has a majority
of several hundred in June, 1896, and
he believes he can easily defeat the
Prime Minister.

THE METHODIST CONFERENCE

Resolution Praying God's Help
to British Arms in South
Africa.

From Our Own Correspondent.
New Westminster, May 14.—Rev. F.
Robson today asked for superannuation
for one year. The request was referred
to the proper committee.

The report of committee on Sabbath
observance was referred back for amend-
ment from our work.

A long discussion was caused by Rev.
J. W. Winslow moving a reconsidera-
tion of the action of conference in ac-
cepting the resignation of Rev. W. E.
Moody. It was held by many that the
law of the church did not provide for the
resignation of ministers, and that the
conference had no authority to accept
singing "God Save the Queen":

"Whereas, our mother country, Great
Britain, is engaged in a most unpopu-
lar war for civil and religious liberty
in South Africa, we, the members of the
British Columbia conference of the
Methodist Church, ministers and laymen
here assembled, desire to express our
conviction of the righteousness of Brit-
ain's cause in another. After six
days' heavy fighting, our infantry unable
to get support from our heavy guns on
Spion Kop, and water supply being nearly
two miles on the hills, the whole posi-
tion was abandoned, our troops retiring
most successfully to the south bank of
the river.

THE COLONIALS.

The star of peace has sudden gone from
these islands.

Deeply shrouded in clouds of blackest night;
And heard once again is Warren's tread.
As onward, onward, England's banners
spread.

Valiant Britain's troops are gathering fast,
on the promontory bridge to the little pen-
insula across the bay on which the hotel
pointed has been completed, a bicycle
path, and everything was in readiness for
the grand opening on Saturday evening
next.

The opening had been postponed—but
for long. On August 1 a new Strath-
cona hotel will rise on the site of the
short-lived structure which perished in
the fire of last year.

Mr. J. W. Carey has also commenced
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Hotel Burned At It's Birth

The Strathcona, the Handsome
Shawnigan Tourist Struc-
ture, no More.

Plucky Proprietors to Commence
Work of Re-Construct-
ion at Once.

At 12:30 on Sunday morning the
Strathcona hotel, the summer resort
structure erected on the shores of
Shawnigan Lake at Shawnigan Station
by the Shawnigan Lake Hotel Co., Lim-
ited, stood an emblem of the enterprise
of its originators and in the front line
of the tourist resorts of the province; two
hours later all that remained of it were
three blackened chimneys and a few
smoking embers.

First mysterious, fierce and sudden,
swept the pretty structure to swift destruc-
tion before a hand could be raised
to stay the work of ruin. Within a week
it was intended that the hotel about
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MARINE.

Men Reported Missing From the
Turpel Turn Up.

The hope expressed by the sealers who
brought the news of their loss from the
schooner that mate Gillan and his com-
panions of the Sable Turpel—who were
separated from that vessel by fog and
storm on the 10th instant—would be pic-
ked up by some other craft, proved for-
tunate in the realization when the
Turpel returned to port yesterday, the
missing men were safe aboard. They
had been picked up by the schooner Tene-
bre and returned to their own vessel at
first opportunity. The schooner had
small luck during the season, bringing
home as evidence of her work in the
rough weather by 81 pelts. With the
usual perversity of fate, so soon as the
Coast season closed, the weather moder-
ated and the seal arrived in no num-
bers that fortunes might easily
have been made had the stern law
forbid. Among the other returning
schooners of yesterday were the Arletis,
top-liner of the Indian fleet, with 516;
the Ida Rita, with 335; the Walter L.
Rich, 102; Minnie, 280; and Libbie, 193.
The Ocean Belle also reported from Car-
malum Island, inbound with 735
skins.

Steamer Queen City returned on Sun-
day from the Naas and Skeena, where
preparation for the season, but now
been completed by the canneries, and
everything is arranged for a heavy pack.
This afternoon on the authority of
W. Green, E. Bray, W. Westley, C. La-
pierre, M. McKindle, J. Clayton, J.
Gosse, and G. Robinson, the following
will sail again this evening.

It was a light list of passengers with
the Queen City.

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