

HOW KUT WAS LOST BY THE BRITISH ARMY

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Percy Lake
Tells of Gallant Attempts
to Relieve Gen. Townshend

The full story of the gallant but unavailing attempts to relieve Kut and rescue Major-General Townshend and his heroic garrison is told by Lieut.-General Sir Percy Lake in a despatch published last night in a supplement to the London Gazette. It is a record of dogged courage and determination in the face of unparalleled difficulties and hardships.

Sir Percy Lake divides the operations into three phases:—

1st phase—January 19 to 23.—Unsuccessful attempt to force the Hannah defence. Commander, Lieut.-General Sir F. Aymer.

2nd phase—January 24 to March 10.—A period of rest and reorganization, followed by the unsuccessful attempt to outflank the enemy's right in the vicinity of the Dujailah Redoubt. Commander, Lieut.-General Sir F. Aymer.

3rd phase—March 11 to April 30.—A brief period of preparation, followed by the attack and capture of the Hannah and Falahiyah positions; failure to force the Samnayat position, and fall of Kut. Commander, Lieut.-General Sir G. F. Goring.

Trenches Won and Lost.

On the morning of January 20 the troops on the right approached to within 100 yards of the enemy's line, but were unable to advance further. The left column, consisting of the Black Watch, 6th Jats, and 4th Dogras, penetrated the front line with a rush, capturing trenches which they held for about an hour and a half. Supports were sent forward, but, losing direction and coming under heavy fire, failed to reach them. Thus, left unsupported, our previously successful troops, when Turkish counter attacks developed, were overwhelmed by numbers and forced to retire.

Heavy rain now began to fall and continued throughout the day. Telephone communication broke down, and communication by orderly became slow and uncertain. After further artillery bombardment, the attack was renewed at 1 p. m., but by this time the heavy rain had converted the ground into a sea of mud, rendering rapid movement impossible. The enemy's fire was heavy and effective, inflicting heavy losses, and though every effort was made, the assault failed.

"I cannot sufficiently express my admiration for the courage and dogged determination of the force engaged," states Sir Percy Lake. "For days they bivouacked in driving rain on soaked and sodden ground. Three times they were called upon to advance over a perfectly flat country, deep in mud, and absolutely devoid of cover, and they showed a spirit of endurance and self-sacrifice of which their country may well be proud."

General Townshend reported on January 25 that he could hold out for another eight-four days. Throughout February preparations were made for resuming the offensive, and a surprise advance on the Dujailah Redoubt was begun on March 7.

A Night March.

The feature of this advance was a splendid night march across unknown ground. General Keary's column was in position at daybreak, but General Kemball's column did not reach the point selected until more than an hour later, and the delay was "highly prejudicial."

In the afternoon the corps commander received from his engineer officers the unwelcome news that the water supply contained in rainwater pools, on which he had reckoned, was insufficient, and could not be increased by digging. It was clear that unless the redoubt could be carried that day the scarcity of water would of itself compel our troops to fall back, and accordingly the attack was renewed at 5.15 p. m. The Manchester and 50th Rifles, and some of the 37th Infantry Brigade, succeeded in gaining a foothold in the redoubt. But here they were heavily counter-attacked by large enemy reinforcements, and, being subjected to an extremely rapid and accurate shrapnel fire from concealed guns, they were forced to fall back.

The troops, who had been under arms for thirty hours, including a long night march, were now much exhausted, and General Aymer considered that a renewal of the assault during the night could not be made with any prospect of success. Next morning the enemy's position was found to be unchanged, and our troops had to withdraw.

More rain followed and for the remainder of March every available man was engaged in digging embankments to prevent the whole country being

A GOOD WINTER HABIT

Many people dread winter because the sudden climatic changes bring colds, gripple, rheumatism, tonsillitis or bronchitis. But thousands of well-informed men and women today avoid much sickness for themselves and their children by taking a few bottles of Scott's Emulsion to make richer blood, fortify the membranes of the throat and chest and create body-heat to resist sickness. Soldiers at war receive cod liver oil; it will also strengthen you.

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ONTARIO RESPONDING TO CALL OF KILTIES OF CLAN MACLEAN

Lieut.-Col. Guthrie Returns Home After Encouraging Trip to Toronto and Elsewhere—Will Speak in Boston, Providence, Cape Breton and the West.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, Nov. 8.—Lieut.-Col. Percy A. Guthrie, officer commanding the 236th Kilties Battalion, returned today from Toronto where he had been engaged in preparations for the commencement of the recruiting campaign for the MacLean Kilties in Ontario.

Arrangements have been completed for a progressive campaign which it is expected will bring at least two full companies of Kilties from Ontario, one with headquarters in Toronto and another with headquarters at Port William.

Major Frank Eason, adjutant of the Kilties, is now in charge of the headquarters established at Toronto, and Capt. J. D. Black, who is in charge of the Kilties Press Bureau, will spend next week at the Ontario metropolis.

MacLeans Provide Funds.

"The MacLeans of Ontario have organized themselves and are prepared to provide the necessary funds for the big recruiting campaign in that province as well as to supply the Kilties with the tartan of MacLean of Duart for every man who enlists in Ontario," said Lieut. Col. Guthrie upon his return today. "From Lieut. Col. John Bayne MacLean, Chief of the Clan, right along the line, all of the MacLeans and other Scottish people of Ontario and elsewhere in Ontario have taken hold of the project of raising one or more companies in Ontario with wonderful enthusiasm, and we have been assured of the most hearty support of the most influential military and civil authorities."

Lieut. Col. Guthrie found plenty of work piled up for him upon his return to Fredericton but he expects to be able to go to St. John to visit his old friend and fellow officer of the old 10th

flooded. At daybreak on April 5 the 13th Division, under General Maude, jumped out of their trenches and rushed the Turkish first and second lines at Hannah. The attack was brilliantly executed. The enemy's position was a maze of deep trenches, occupying a frontage of 1,300 yards, and extending for 2,600 yards from front to rear.

Position Captured.

On the right bank of the river the 3rd Division, headed by the Manchester, captured a Turkish position. After nightfall the 13th Division captured several more lines of trenches. The 38th Infantry Brigade and the Warwick and Worcester of the 39th Infantry Brigade did particularly well in this assault. The division suffered 1,300 casualties during the day.

During the night of April 5-6 and throughout the 6th the river rose steadily, until at midday it reached the highest level of the year. Our guns were surrounded by floods, and for some time the position was distinctly critical.

At 4 a. m. on April 19 the 13th Division advanced to the assault on Samnayat. When within 300 yards of the enemy's front line they were discovered by the Turks, who sent up very lights and dunes and opened a heavy rifle and gun fire. The first line, including detachments of the 6th K. O. Royal Lancaster Regiment, 8th Welsh Fusiliers, 6th Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, and 5th Wiltshire Regiment, penetrated the centre of the enemy's front line trench. In the glare of the lights the second line lost direction, wavered, and fell back.

Support thus failed to reach the front line at the critical moment in spite of the most gallant and energetic attempts of officers concerned to remedy matters. Our troops who had reached the enemy's trenches were heavily counter-attacked by superior numbers and driven back.

Heavy Fighting.

On the morning of April 17 the Beit Alesya position was captured by Major-General Keary. Progress was made despite great difficulties and short rations. Heavy fighting took place during the day and next night. The 8th Infantry Brigade repelled six attacks, and at dawn the Turks withdrew, having lost between 4,000 and 5,000 men.

During the succeeding days some progress was made, but many of the troops were worn out with fatigue. Large Turkish reinforcements came up and succeeded in forcing our troops back. Many men were unable to use their rifles, which had become choked with mud in crossing the flooded trenches, and so were unable to reply to the enemy's fire.

"Persistent and repeated attempts on both banks had thus failed, and it was known that at the outside not more than six days' supplies remained to the Kut garrison. Gen. Goring's troops were nearly worn out. The same troops had advanced time and again to assault positions strong by art and held by a determined enemy. For eighteen consecutive days they had done all that men could do to overcome, not only the enemy, but also exceptional climatic and physical obstacles—and this on a scale of rations which was far from being sufficient, in view of the exertions they had undergone, but which the shortage of river transport had made it impossible to augment. The need for rest was imperative."

Only one chance remained if Kut was to be relieved. The fast steamer Fulmar, with 270 tons of supplies, arrived on the night of April 24 to

Battalion (White Ghurkhas), Lt. Col. Lightfoot, before he leaves next week for Boston, where he will speak before the Boston Canadian Club. He is also to address the British Empire Club at Providence and to make a series of addresses before patriotic organizations in other Rhode Island cities.

Will Visit Cape Breton.

Later on the Kilties commanding officer is to visit Cape Breton and Halifax to inaugurate a campaign for the battalion in Nova Scotia. Word has been received here that a number of brawny Scotchmen in Nova Scotia and particularly Cape Breton have just been waiting an opportunity of wearing kilts before fighting for their King and Country. The MacLean Kilties are the first kilted unit authorized in the Maritime Provinces.

Major C. G. Goggin, formerly medical officer of the old 10th Battalion (White Ghurkhas), and who now occupies a similar position with the 236th Kilties Battalion, has arrived in Calgary to open the campaign in Alberta for the MacLean Kilties and has arranged for a big meeting of Scotchmen at Calgary on the 19th inst. This will be followed by a big demonstration early in December at which Lieut. Col. Guthrie will be present and as the former commanding officer of the 10th Battalion, which came from Calgary, he will be feted by military and civic dignitaries on his first visit to that city. Lieut. Col. Guthrie will on the same trip visit the Pacific coast where Capt. Percy G. Goddard is making preliminary arrangements for the Kilties campaign in British Columbia. On his return east he will speak before the Canadian Club of New York.

Military Memorial Service. The 16th Battalion in honor of Lieutenants S. K. L. McDonald, W. Gordon Kerr and Bombardier Ashwood was very impressive. The men of the Siege Battery attended the service in a body. Besides the battery several of the members of the 22nd Battalion, quartered on the island, under the command of Major Ross, attended. The service was conducted by the Rev. G. F. Scovill, chaplain of the Siege Battery, assisted by the Rev. Gordon Dickie. The sermon recalled to the boys in khaki the fact the brave boys Everything that the supreme sacrifice had not done so in vain and that their names would live through generations as men who answered their country's call.

Only the Machine Gun Section of the 16th Battalion were out on route march yesterday. They left the barracks in the afternoon and proceeded as far as Rockwood Park, where the afternoon was spent in observation practice. Lieut. Melanson, who is the officer commanding the Machine Gun Section, put the men through the drill of range finding at different distances. The regular routine work was carried on by the remainder of the battalion. Lieut. Colonel D'Aigle and Captain Loxier have left for Montreal for a few days. They will return to the city at the end of the week.

Foresters' Reunion. A Foresters' reunion was held last evening in the rooms of Court O'Connell in the Temple building, Main street. Representatives from all the local courts were present and enjoyed the fine programme given. Robt. Carson, J. Armstrong and Mr. Kingsmill entertained with some vocal music which was well liked. Brief speeches were made by Commissioner Wigmore, Past High Chief Ranger M. E. Grass and others. Later in the evening the Foresters assembled in the Palace theatre, down stairs, where a special movie show was staged for them.

Sportsmen Want 150 Men. The 180th Battalion under the command of Lieut. Colonel Greer were out on a short route march yesterday. They were attired in light marching order and swung along at a brisk clip. There is very little room for improvement in the way the men of the sporting battalion carry themselves when covering terra firma. They will carry on the regular routine work this morning and this afternoon another short march out will be held. The 180th Battalion still require about 150 men to bring it up to overseas strength. This battalion will probably be leaving for England in a very short time and the opportunity furnishes anyone desiring to go overseas at the earliest possible time a grand chance.

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As the members of the 22nd Battalion have been quartered at different places since their arrival in St. John they have not been able to carry on the usual battalion drill. Upon the arrival of the battalion in the city Lieut. Colonel James Lightfoot stated that at the first opportunity after the men had settled themselves in their quarters, he would hold a route march through the city. Yesterday the officer commanding the 22nd announced that the battalion would hold a route march today. This will be the first route march the boys of the western battalion have held since their arrival here.

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OBITUARY

Mrs. Stewart Crossman. The death is announced to Everett, Mass. of Mrs. Julia M. Crossman, wife of Stewart Crossman, formerly of Sackville. Mrs. Crossman was thirty-seven years of age. The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon.

DIED.

WINSLOW—In this city, on the 7th inst., Joseph Winslow, leaving his wife, four daughters and two sons to mourn.

(Fredericton papers please copy.) Funeral Thursday morning, from his late residence, 17 St. Patrick Street, Services at St. Dunstan's Church, Fredericton, N. B. COLLINS—On November 8, 1916, John J., youngest son of Mary and the late Michael Collins, leaving his mother, one brother and two sisters to mourn. Funeral on Saturday morning at 8.30 from his late residence, 41 Lombard Street, to the Holy Trinity Church for Requiem High Mass. Friends invited to attend.

IN MEMORIAM.

In loving memory of Rev. Isaac Newton Parker, who departed this life November 8th, 1916.

IMMENSE BRITISH WAR ORDER FOR RUBBER BOOTS

Great Britain's Requisition for 2,000,000 Pairs Calls Attention to Other Conditions Bearing on Rubber Footwear.

The British Government has just given one order to a single manufacturer for 2,000,000 pairs of hip length rubber boots, one of the largest orders of any kind the world has ever known. This order is, of course, to supply the army, and the manufacturers of the boots will require 7,000 tons of crude rubber, cotton fabrics and chemicals.

The supplying of the raw material in this instance is a matter of ease, England controlling the world's output of rubber through her sagacity in winning rubber plantations in her colonies, which began producing about fifteen years ago and which now turn out nearly 75 per cent. of the world's supply.

The immense order calls attention to the fact that through the increasing price in leather and the resultant high cost of shoes, a larger amount of rubber footwear will be used in Canada this year than ever before. Rubber will be used not only because of its being a safeguard to health in snow and slush of winter, but as a means of protecting the costly leather of shoes from the ravages of water.

England's wisdom in handling the rubber market has kept the price down so that it is now less than before the war, while all other staple articles have risen in cost. This is one instance where the consumer, the man on the street, is the winner when he puts his money into rubbers, gum shoes or goloshes—whichever he may choose to call them.

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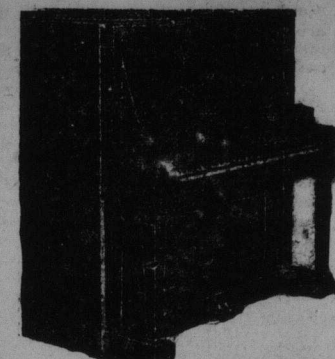
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Appearing on this page today are several of the greatest Piano Bargains ever offered to the buying public. Pianos of unquestioned quality. Pianos that are known from coast to coast, all are included at this great sale. Some of the pianos are used, some shopworn, others are discontinued styles; but the majority are Brand New, High-Grade, Guaranteed Pianos direct from the factory. There are \$600, \$500, \$450, \$400, \$375, brand new pianos included in this sale, and we are taking prices that are without a parallel in the entire history of piano selling. Come here to this sale. It does not matter whether you want to buy a piano for \$90 or whether you want a brand new \$600 piano. We have the goods and we will positively leave no stone unturned to sell this stock.

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Do not stop to consider the piano question. You cannot afford to pause and think when such pianos as "Amherst," "Mason & Risch," "Karn," "Morris," "Stohman," "Schubert," "Haynes," "Milton," "Chickering," are selling at one-half to one-third of the regular prices. This is a sale that will be written into the history of the Dominion of Canada. For generosity of prices, for liberality of terms this sale has been a positive record breaker. Come here to this sale. Do not hesitate. Do not delay. Do not put off until tomorrow. Get on your hat and coat this minute and start for the J. A. McDonald Piano Store. Put a few dollars in your pocket. We will guarantee to save you money. The end is fast approaching. Do not let the last of these sensational bargains go by.

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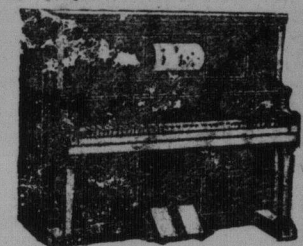
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88 NOTE PLAYER—Regular \$600, Now to Close at **\$325.00**

This Mahogany Case Morris Player Piano is the last Morris Player in this stock and, to get our money out of it, we are offering this player piano at this unheard of price. We will not take no for an answer. We are selling pianos and players like hot cakes. Come here at once. Do not hesitate one moment. We will not take orders at this price, and neither will we sell any of this stock to piano dealers or their agents. We will give twenty rolls of music, a bench and free delivery with this player FREE.



THE PRICE—**\$325.00**
THE TERMS—
10 per cent. Cash
\$2.50 per Week

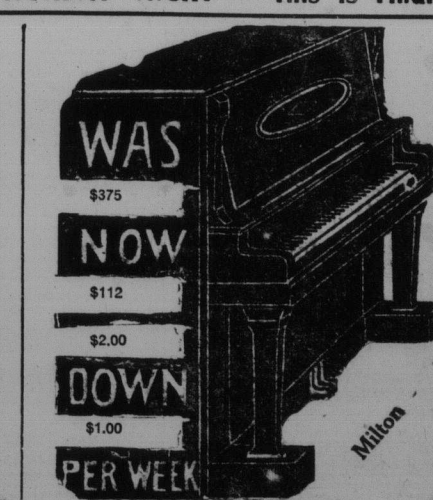
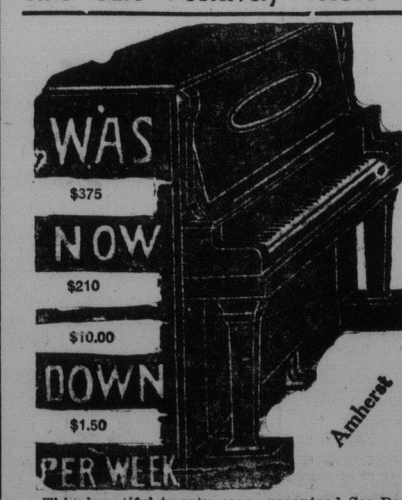
THESE FOUR BIG SPECIALS GO ON SALE AT ONCE



Here we have a full size "Karn" Piano, beautiful finish, round deep tone, responsive action. This piano is worth \$300 of any man's money this moment, just as it stands on the floor. Come here and see it. Hear it played. Bring along any musical friend and have them play it, then look at this price and at these terms.

Here we have a beautiful Mahogany Case Mason & Risch Piano. Never been out of this store since it was received. Full, sweet tone. Regular \$450 piano, beautiful bench to match. Fully guaranteed by the makers. A fine piano for a fine home. Look at this price and look at these terms.

This Sale Positively Closes SATURDAY NIGHT—This Is Final



This beautiful twenty year guaranteed San-Domingo Mahogany Case "Amherst" Piano has been used for six months by one of the leading musicians in St. John for recital purposes. This piano is better today than the day it left the factory. Call here and see this piano. Ask for it. This is one of the greatest piano bargains ever offered in the Dominion of Canada. Look at this price and look at the terms.

Here we have the last "Matchless Milton" Piano that goes into this sale, and if this price will not sell it, we will give it away if necessary. Come here at once. Make us a cash offer. Make us a time offer with a good cash payment and if there is a half a chance for us to get out anywhere like even, we will accept your offer.

Tremendous Reductions for Cash or Good Payments

STORE OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL 9 O'CLOCK

J. A. McDonald Piano & Music Co., Ltd.

7 MARKET SQUARE, ST. JOHN, N. B.

Hibernia, Nov. 5.—Mrs. Gellina Gardiner and Mrs. James Robinson and little Miss Ruth Robinson McAdam, who have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Clarke for two weeks, returned to their homes on Oct. 27.