

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 1907.

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ENRICO ALFONSO WAS BARON BY DAY AND BANDIT BY NIGHT

Head of "Camorra" Arrested in New York Led a Merry Jekyll and Hyde Life in Rome, Naples and Nice.

(N. Y. American)

Back to Italy, where he will probably receive a life sentence for the murder of two persons, Enrico Alfonso, "King of the Camorra," a blackmailing society, with branches in every foreign quarter of the world, will sail tomorrow in a specially built cell aboard one of the Italian steamers. During the nine-day trip to Naples Alfonso will constantly be kept in irons, and will be under guard.

On the eve of Alfonso's departure from this city, where he was arrested in the recent crusade against carriers of death weapons, a remarkable story was told regarding his criminal business in the summer colonies on the outskirts of Rome, Naples and Nice.

Playing the roles of a "baron by day and a bandit by night," Alfonso is said to have reaped a fortune. During his life in Italy many mysterious crimes in the fashionable sections of large cities occurred, the responsibility of which was placed on members of the "Camorra." The crime of which Alfonso is accused is the murder of Andrea Cuccolo, former leader of the "Camorra," and his beautiful young wife, whose bodies were found a year ago riddled with bullets on a lonely road about four miles from Naples.

The "Camorra" which has a branch on Grand street, between Mott and Elizabeth, was reported last evening as having raised a fund of \$20,000 to fight the deportation of their leader. After investigating his past record and communicating with the authorities abroad, the immigration officials on Ellis Island decided yesterday that Alfonso was an undesirable citizen, and that he must be deported.

Hearing of his ability as a fighter, and of his knowledge of the locks of cell doors, the immigration officials made arrangements to have Alfonso placed in a special cell. The man at present is being kept in a pen on Ellis Island. He is only thirty-two years old, yet the Neapolitan records show that he has been convicted eight times in Italy of assaults on policemen sent to arrest him for blackmailing wealthy citizens. He has served seven terms in prison.

Among the ignorant and poor class in Naples Alfonso was greatly feared. For years he was looked upon as a demigod. Most of his raids were made almost under the eyes of the police and soldiers. It is said that he seldom chose a poor person for his victim. He generally went after the persons prominent in society, who possessed large estates and were in the habit of carrying considerable amounts of money as well as jewelry. His election as the head of the "Camorra" took place after the murder of Cuccolo and his wife.

"Americans ought to feel happy that they are going to get rid of this fellow," says Sergeant Petrosino, who arrested Alfonso. He came to this country on March 21, via California. For a while he traveled under the name of Giuseppe Baisital, and was said to have had with him more than \$50,000. When he arrived in New York local members of the "Camorra" gave him a big dinner. He was feasted and honored just as though he was the head jurist of some nation.

GENERAL LOUIS BOTHA HERO OF CONFERENCE

He Was Opposed to Kruger But When the Boer War Broke Out He Fought Gallantly and Won Great Distinction.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

That General Botha, Premier of the Transvaal, and former Commander-in-Chief of the Boer army, is to be the lion of the colonial conference, is made clear by our despatches. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, as the representative of Canada, has had his share of London's and England's homage, and now it is the turn of the Boer hero. He is a man of great distinction, and his name is a household word in the Empire. He is a man of great distinction, and his name is a household word in the Empire.

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THE PRICE OF PEACE.

As the war went on, and as the difficulty of putting heart in the Boers and keeping them to the scratch became more and more serious, Botha gradually came to his full growth in the estimation of his followers. It was decided that he should be the next president of the Transvaal, and that his name should be a national holiday in the event of ultimate success. It is strange indeed that he should attain by defeat what he must have contemplated as the sweetest fruit of victory; but so it has come about, and Botha's determined struggle has only served to make him more popular with his conquerors. He knew when to fight, and when to cease firing; and if ever he takes up his rifle again, it will be in defence of those rights that are now the heritage of the Boers as of the British.

HE OPPOSED KRUGER.

His popularity pointed the way to a political career, and Botha was elected to the Volksraad. He entered public life at a time when the Uitlander question was fast becoming critical, and his attitude toward the English-speaking residents was far from that of Oom Paul's. Botha was opposed to the course taken by the Transvaal Government in the war, and he was a strong supporter of the independence of the Transvaal. He was one of the few Boers who realized that a war would destroy the last vestige of Transvaal autonomy. Joubert took the same view, and hung back until some of the hotheads called him a traitor. When the war burst over the country, neither of them fought any the less bravely for his innermost conviction that it was a terrible mistake.

WHY HE SUCCEEDED.

Beyond his single brush with the Zulus several years before, Botha knew nothing of war when he took the field. He was, of course, a good shot, and a good rider, and had a remarkable knowledge of the Tugela district, where he had lived and hunted all his life. Here we have an explanation of the remarkable skill of the Boer generals; they were called upon to fight in districts of which they had special knowledge. Dr. W. at Dwyndor, and Botha, at the Tugela, were right at home, and the greatest successes of each were won in districts where each had lived from boyhood. Botha's prominence as a farmer and member of the Volksraad gave him a little start at the beginning, and his intimate friendship with General Meyer was also an advantage, but his ability as a fighting man was not suspected until a series of accidents had put him in command of the Boer army. Joubert, on his deathbed, had requested that Botha might succeed him, and as Meyer, the second in command, was a very sick man at the time, there did not appear to be any better choice.

COMMANDER AT 35.

So, at the age of 35, Louis Botha was made commander-in-chief and placed in immediate command of the 13,000 Boers who had beleaguered Ladysmith. That he kept prisoner an army almost equal to his

SANDFORD'S YACHT HAS RETURNED TO MAINE

(Continued from page 1.)

effect that the Kingdom left Joppa, Palestine sometime the latter part of February. No log is kept aboard the Kingdom and all the dates are hazy in the minds of the men aboard. Frequently, the captain turned to a man who appeared to be one of the leaders of the flock to confirm dates but neither man was sure of any statement made and were contradicting themselves when asked the same question twice in a little different way.

From Joppa the Kingdom went to Malta and thence to Gibraltar. The Kingdom was 37 days in coming across from Gibraltar and this is a quick trip for a sailing vessel, the usual time being anywhere from 50 days to 100 according to the weather. Capt. Perry reported excellent weather en route and fair winds to send them along. The captain says that he has not seen the Rev. Frank W. Sandford, the head of the converts, since some time in January and that he does not know where he is at the present time excepting that he feels sure that he is on the other side of the water. The general belief was that the Kingdom was on the other side of the water, and the captain reported a colony in the Holy Land but this is denied by the party which arrived this morning. One of the members of the crew ventured to remark that Elijah, as they called Sandford, was on the yacht Coronet but that the location of the Coronet was unknown to those aboard.

Capt. Perry was asked how many converts there were on the other side of the water and he said that he did not know, that there were few.

Nothing was said about the yacht Wanderer. Capt. Perry was asked regarding Sandford's health and the health of the converts who were with him and he said that they had known no sickness since leaving this side of the water.

The captain seemed to say just how many women were among the passengers aboard and when asked just what the mission was in coming to this side, flatly refused to answer any more questions. A few more questions were put but were answered in so vague a way that nothing could be ascertained.

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The men of the crew were dressed in overalls and one would have taken them for farmers had they been seen on land instead of on board ship.

The vessel was clean, the deck looked as if it had just been washed. The cabin windows were clean, and the crew was made up of a fine looking, rugged set of men. Most of the men were clean shaven and their clothes were neat. But two women were seen by the Advertiser reporter one a young woman well dressed and lacking the wistful suppliance which is reputed to be noticeable in the inmates of Shiloh. This young woman seemed much amused at the inability of the reporter to get aboard the vessel farther than the rail and when the captain began to get tired at the questioning, she burst out laughing and went into the cabin. The other woman was much older than the first and was shrouded in a heavy bed quilt, her face only showing. She was a creature, her eyes sunken, and she looked in the last part of despondency. The point on the vessel is apparently new and the upper works look as if she were painted on the way over. It is understood that the Kingdom is bound for Freeport whence her people will go to Shiloh.

Satisfactorily Explained

The New York drummer sat in the smoking room of the hotel and had just observed that he must take the night train for Oakhosh, when one of the merchants of the town entered and said to him:

"What, you here? Why, I didn't know you were in town."

"Yes, been here three days."

"And have not called on me? Why, I have been waiting to give you an order. Hope there is nothing wrong?"

"Well, er—yes, see," stammered the drummer—"when I was here last I dropped into your place and asked you to carry the letter to the postoffice, and it took you a full minute to reply."

"Dear me, but I must have had one of my absent-minded fits on."

"To finish off," continued the drummer, "I asked you to endorse a check, and send me five dollars, and off a couple of telegrams for me and get me a railroad pass to Blanktown. You did it all, but like a man who felt he was being imposed upon. In fact, I thought you might not want to see me this time I came, and so I have kept away."

"Dear, dear me, but how could you get such an idea! It was only my eccentric way, you see. Come right over to the store the first thing in the morning. I want to order a thousand dollars' worth of goods, and will make out a deed of my house and lot to you to show that there is no bad feeling. Come over and borrow a couple of hundred dollars, drink my champagne, board at my house and carry the key of my safe. There is no such thing as a drummer having gall."

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