

BRANDFORD OCCUPIED.

Bulletin from London Announces the Capture of the Boer Position.

Lord Roberts Has Fifty Thousand Men Between Thaba N'chu and Bloemfontein.

The Correspondents at Kimberley Have Been Forbidden to Communicate for Several Days—Boers in Natal Are Getting Restless.

REPORT FROM COL. OTTER.

OTTAWA, May 1.—In another report received from Col. Otter it is said that E. P. Pullen, formerly a bank clerk in Toronto, turned up at Bloemfontein on the 22nd of last month, having gone there at his own expense. He was as a special case attached to C company, and the department was approved of this.

The first Canadian contingent left Cape Town on the 1st of March, and on the 10th of last month the strength of the contingent was 751. There were sick in hospital and wounded 296, and one officer and 33 men killed.

The following is taken from the report of Lieut. Col. Otter received at the militia department this morning under date of March 10: "During the march, which began on the 18th February and ended on the 13th inst., I cannot speak too highly of the conduct generally of officers and men of the Royal Canadian Regiment. Taken together the march was a very trying one. Without tents or change of clothing for many days, engaged more or less with the enemy for two-thirds of the time upon half rations, subjected to a very hot sun, cold nights and several severe rain storms, the endurance, courage and good spirits of the battalion were more than tried, and it is with much pleasure I have to record its having proved itself fully equal to the strain. The battalion is now resting in conjunction with other parts of the army, and things in bivouac are still again on full rations, to which I have been favored with funds at my disposal to procure a few extra comforts in the way of food. I regret having to report the sentence by the C. G. C. M. on the 14th inst. to 18 days' imprisonment of a soldier for creating a fowl, the property of an inhabitant. The orders on the subject of looting were most stringent and definite, and while no doubt, the provocation was great, considering the lack of food for the previous three weeks, yet, owing to the constant warning the men had received, the offence cannot from a military point of view be palliated. In recording the action of the battalion on the 27th ultimo, I find that a very important event was omitted by me, viz., the personal inspection by the F. M. C. in G., Lord Roberts, at his own request on the afternoon of that day. The field marshal in addressing the battalion expressed his great satisfaction with its conduct on the 18th and 27th inst., his pleasure in having them under his command, and his belief that the surrender of General Cronje and his forces had been accelerated by his action of the morning. By the parole state it will be seen that the strength of the battalion is very much reduced through the large number of the sick and the wounded. These, however, are doing well so far as I am able to learn, but my reports for the past month have in that direction necessarily been most meagre."

WITH THE SECOND CONTINGENT.

TORONTO, May 1.—The Globe today publishes the following special cable from its correspondent with the second contingent: "VAN WYKS VLEI, Cape Colony, April 14, via London, April 20.—The first death in the second Canadian contingent occurred today. Private Brad-

DEPARTCH FROM LORD ROBERTS.

LONDON, May 1, 7.15 p. m.—The war office has received the following despatch from Lord Roberts: "BLOEMFONTEIN, May 1.—Ian Hamilton marched yesterday in a northerly direction from Thaba N'chu with a body of mounted infantry and Smith-Dorrien's brigade of Clements' division. At Houtney he found himself opposed by a strong force, commanded by Gen. Botha in person. Reinforcements reached this force during the day, and I directed my force to strengthen him during the night from Thaba N'chu. This he was able to do, as the number of Boers in the neighborhood of Thaba N'chu has considerably decreased. In addition to these troops Hamilton should be reinforced during the day by Broadwood's cavalry and Bruce Hamilton's infantry. Hamilton mentioned that his casualties yesterday were about thirty. "Maxwell's brigade of seventh division yesterday occupied 'Waksonter's' and 'Schuurkral,' a row of kopjes, without meeting with opposition. But the mounted infantry were engaged for some hours."

AWARDED THE VICTORIA CROSS.

LONDON, May 1.—A letter from Sergeant Parker, who is believed to be one of those just decorated with the Victoria Cross, describing the Sannas Post disaster, is published today. He says: "In galloping from the Spruit, my gun was overturned and every horse was shot. I got up with No. 4 gun, and we remained three hours under the most terrible fire. In five minutes I had lost two complete detachments, and only Gunner Lodge and myself were left to work the two guns, he at one and I at the other. We remained at the guns, loading, laying and firing by ourselves, and brought both guns out of action by ourselves. We have been recommended for the Victoria Cross."

TWO MORE CANADIANS GONE.

LONDON, May 2.—The war office has been notified that Private H. B. Barr, of 21st Essex Fusiliers, died at Naauwport, Cape Colony, from enteric fever. He belonged to "B" company, Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry. The death of Shoemith McMillan, of the same regiment, was also notified at Bloemfontein, is also confirmed.

CANADIANS IN IT.

THABA N'CHU, May 1 (afternoon).—General Hamilton's division was engaged yesterday and today in forcing a passage northward. At Houtney the Boers held a line of kopjes, commanding the sides of the neck. The Canadians and Gordons attacked the hill to the left, and the Shropshires and Marshall's Horse, supported by a battery, also made an attack on the enemy, who eventually fled, leaving many wounded in action in same date. Lieut. J. M. Ross, 22nd Oxford Rifles, No. 7.655, Private John Lutz, 74th Battalion, Sussex, N. E. No. 7.922, Private Joseph Letson, 62nd St. John Fusiliers. No. 7.486, Private F. E. Foster, Governor General's Foot Guards, Ottawa. No. 7.294, Private R. Irvine, 19th St. Catherine's Battalion. No. 7.234, Private C. K. Rolison, 21st Essex Fusiliers. No. 8.176, Private A. E. Zong, 96th Battalion, Halifax, died from enteric fever on the 1st inst.

LORD MITO HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING.

From Sir A. Milner, Cape Town: "Shoemith J. McMillan, one of the artificers sent by the Canadian government at the war office's request, died at Bloemfontein of enteric fever. (Joseph Letson, aged 22, joined the first contingent at St. John. He boarded at Elliot's hotel, Germain street. He came here from Chatham, where his mother resides, and gave up a job at the Mispic pulp mill to go to the front.)"

BRUCE MACFARLANE'S WOUND.

Private John H. Wilson of Keswick, a member of the first Canadian contingent, writes to a friend in St. Mary's from Bloemfontein, under date of March 21st: "I don't suppose you have heard of Bruce MacFarlane shooting himself. It was the first day after Paardeberg, and we started out with the prospect of a fight. We had advanced from a mile of the kopje on which the Boers had taken up their position. Our big guns had been shelling them from a piece of rising ground on our right, and everything was looking like a hard fight. We were all waiting for the order to advance when we heard a shot from the direction of our company, and afterwards the word came down the line that Bruce had accidentally shot himself in the foot."

GOOD MEN AND TRUE.

TORONTO, May 3.—The Globe's special cable says: "Edward Kipling in today's London Daily Mail, referring to the desirability of colonials settling in South Africa and the lack of inducements offered by the home government, says: 'Among the various hopefuls are three hundred Canadians of the very stamp and breed we require, young, sound, clean, intelligent, well educated. Three hundred killed or wounded in South Africa, shall we let all these beautiful men go back to their own place and never lift a finger to stay them?'"

WOUNDED CANADIAN TALKS.

MONTREAL, May 3.—The Star's London correspondent cables: "Captain J. E. Peltier of Montreal, and not Major Peltier, as reported, is a French-Canadian officer inviolated by the Boers, now residing as a private guest in a house in the West End suffering from sunstroke and wounds. His left leg, neck and right leg are temporarily paralyzed, yet he talks bravely of going back to the front. His doctor hopes he may be able to leave and recruit his health at Brighton in a week or so. Capt. Peltier confirms the statement that five or six Canadians were killed or wounded at Paardeberg by accidental bayoneting by the Gordons. As the Canadians fell back on the trenches the Gordons mistook them in the half light for Boers. Capt. Peltier advises that the Gordons are not for a moment to be blamed. He expresses the heartiest appreciation of his kind treatment here. Gen. Smith-Dorrien's command is highly praised by a captain in the Leinsters, also inviolated. He says he saw much of the Canadians and other troops. The soldiers' attitudes at the Canadians excited universal admiration. ONLY A FEW ALLOWED TO REMAIN. PRETORIA, May 1.—The total number of British subjects allowed to remain here and in the gold fields district, under President Kruger's protection, is 22. Of this number 12 are men and 10 women. This number does not include the staffs of the water and lighting companies. THE JOHANNESBURG EXPLOSION. LONDON, May 3.—The Standard Johannesburg says: "Thomas Richards, an American, has been arrested as a suspect in connection with the Begbie factory explosion at Johannesburg. He was arraigned yesterday, charged with murder, and remanded until today. The accused was added, was not defended. The paper also says that an excavation has been made where the explosion was most violent, and that as no trace of a tunnel was found, other excavations will be made. ALL WELL AT MAKEKING. LONDON, May 2.—Lord Roberts has telegraphed to the war office from Bloemfontein, under today's date, that he has been received from Col. Baden-Powell, the British commander at Makekang, saying all was well there. The despatch from Col. Baden-Powell was dated April 20. LARGE FORCE HAS LEFT BLOEMFONTEIN. BLOEMFONTEIN, May 1.—Early this morning Gen. Pole-Carew's division, composed of the Guards and Gen. Stevenson's brigades, with several batteries of artillery, all in winter clothing, left Bloemfontein. Lord Roberts, with Lady Roberts and their daughter, reviewed the division in market place. Later Lord Roberts, while reviewing Robert's Horse, congratulated the men upon their bravery, spoke of the gallantry of the colonial troops and expressed the hope that he might soon review them in Pretoria. BRANDFORD OCCUPIED. LONDON, May 4.—It is announced that the British have captured Brandford. ADDITIONAL CANADIAN CASUALTIES. OTTAWA, May 3.—A cable was received this morning at the militia department from Lieut. Col. Otter, commanding the first Canadian contingent, giving the following casualty list: Killed in action on the 30th April or 1st May: No. 7.488, Private Henry Cotton, 43rd Battalion, Ottawa and Carleton Rifles. Wounded in action in same date: Lieut. J. M. Ross, 22nd Oxford Rifles, No. 7.655, Private John Lutz, 74th Battalion, Sussex, N. E. No. 7.922, Private Joseph Letson, 62nd St. John Fusiliers. No. 7.486, Private F. E. Foster, Governor General's Foot Guards, Ottawa. No. 7.294, Private R. Irvine, 19th St. Catherine's Battalion. No. 7.234, Private C. K. Rolison, 21st Essex Fusiliers. No. 8.176, Private A. E. Zong, 96th Battalion, Halifax, died from enteric fever on the 1st inst. Lord Mitto has received the following from Sir A. Milner, Cape Town: "Shoemith J. McMillan, one of the artificers sent by the Canadian government at the war office's request, died at Bloemfontein of enteric fever. (Joseph Letson, aged 22, joined the first contingent at St. John. He boarded at Elliot's hotel, Germain street. He came here from Chatham, where his mother resides, and gave up a job at the Mispic pulp mill to go to the front.)" BRUCE MACFARLANE'S WOUND. Private John H. Wilson of Keswick, a member of the first Canadian contingent, writes to a friend in St. Mary's from Bloemfontein, under date of March 21st: "I don't suppose you have heard of Bruce MacFarlane shooting himself. It was the first day after Paardeberg, and we started out with the prospect of a fight. We had advanced from a mile of the kopje on which the Boers had taken up their position. Our big guns had been shelling them from a piece of rising ground on our right, and everything was looking like a hard fight. We were all waiting for the order to advance when we heard a shot from the direction of our company, and afterwards the word came down the line that Bruce had accidentally shot himself in the foot."

ON THE BRITISH SIDE.

LONDON, May 2.—"I am entirely on the British side in this war in South Africa," said the King of Sweden and Norway, now on a visit to this country, in an interview with a representative of the Associated Press today. "You may make it quite clear that I have no sympathy with the Boers, and I will tell you I find it difficult to understand either the principles of a religion which is apparently a monopoly of the Burgers of the two States, or of the political manifestations of a government most of the reforms suggested by the British, and which closed its negotiations by invading British territory. In my opinion the English-speaking races are the exact opposite of the Boers, because they are among the best colonizers of the world when savage and uncivilized territories have to be reclaimed. No greater proof of this could have been given than the splendid outburst of loyalty at home and the heroism in the field which every British soldier has so unanimously displayed. That is the good which has come to Great Britain out of the evil which any war brings in its train, and that will be her compensation for the many disappointments she has suffered hitherto. You may make it quite clear that I have no sympathy whatever with the Boers, and that I will give no support to the attempts they are making to secure the countenance or co-operation of other countries."

BOERS WILLING TO RETREAT.

LONDON, May 3.—The Morning Post has the following despatch from Winston Churchill, dated Thaba N'chu, April 29: "When Gen. Dickson retired in the circumstances related in my last telegram, his own mess cart and the brigade water carts fell into the hands of the enemy, and his rear guard was heavily fired. This was what I promised Gen. Hamilton, who therefore collected his forces and fell back to Thaba N'chu after sharply checking the advancing enemy, with infantry and artillery fire. "Although much ammunition was expended on both sides, the losses were insignificant, the fighting being at great range. The result is that the Boers are willing to retreat, but it is in the power of the present force to interfere with them or with their wagons."

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