BOERS AGAIN REPULSED

London, March 29.- A Cape Town de-

spatch of yesterday's date says:-The British inflicted a repulse March 20 on the commandoes of Gen. Malan and

Commandant Scheeper on Sunday

River. The Boers fled, having lost 16

DE WET CAPTURED. Portsmouth, England, March 28—The Evening News, of this city publishes a statement to the effect that General De Wet has been captured.

JOINED FORCES.

Cape Town March 28—Commandant Kritzinger, Commandant Scheeper and Commandant Van Reenan have joined

forces, and the Boer commandees, a thousand strong are now moving in the direction of the Orange River, via

BOERS SURPRISED.

London, March 28.—A despatch from Thaba N'Chu district of the Orange River Colony, dated Sunday, says that on Saturday night British troops under Col. White made a night march, and surprised thirty Boers, capturing four and wounding one.

Dr. White, a British surgeon, while on his way to a farm to attend some wounded Boers, was fired on. His horse and that of his orderly were shot, and the orderly were wounded.

shot, and the orderly were wounded.

IN THE COMMONS. London, March 28 .- In the House of

to Gen. Kitchener.

MINNET SITELY

BUTTERICK PATTERNS

THOMAS STONE & SON

FASHION SHEETS FREE

Silk Newness

We sell no Silks but good Silks. Some of our Silks are very low priced, but they are never of the "cheap" kind. The newness and the beauty of the collection is inviting—will you accept the invita-

Taffeta Silk, French Taffeta, guaranteed not to cut, extraordinary quality, at

Finest French Taffetas, in black and colors, at per yd... 75c and \$1 00

Ladies' Spring Jackets and Capes

Some very pretty Jackets have just arrived. They're the Latest New York Style, in fawns and blacks, at.

\$5.00 and \$7.50

Ladies' Capes of Chiffon and Sequin, Laces and Jets, very dainty and stylish. These were a manufactur-er's samples and cost us 35 per cent less than the regular price, we pass the saving on to you. The prices are.....

\$5, \$6 50, \$8, \$10, \$15 and \$18

Corsets

Corsets that fit or Corsets that do not, whichever you like. If you want the perfect fitting sorts in the new straight front that give swager to the figure, you may get them here. Comfort, ease and looseness is your first consideration. Our Corset section will look after you just as well.

LA VIDA—New, short Parsian model, perfect fitting, diamond satin, handsome lace trimming, isbort out away hip. French bust, erect form, finest Cornet manufactured, per pair.....

W. B.-Erect form, fine lace trimming, gand hips and

EVERY DEPARTMENT talks of Easter. From all sections of the store Easter Goods greet you. Come here expecting to get the best Easter Goods for the least money—you won't be disappointed.

EASTER MILLINERY

EASTER SUITS EASTER GLOVES EASTER NECKWEAR

THOMAS STONE & SON Direct Importers

The Woolen Mills

Ordered Clothing Department

Be The First

We are now in a better position to serve you in every way. You will have FIRST-CHOICE of our NEW SPRING GOODS of weich we carry the LARGEST and BEST selected Stock of any in the City.

OUR CUTTER, Mr. Williston, is a thorough mechanic and has none but first-class Men Coat-Makers under his directions. We guarantee to SAVE YOU money on Ordered Clothing and make them First-class and Up-to-date.

We also carry a small stock of READY-MADE CLOTHING. We have the best \$1.50 and \$2.00 Ready-made Pants in Canada. Try US FOR A PAIR and at the same time LEAVE YOUR MEASURE FOR A SPRING SUIT.

The T. H. Taylor Co. Limited

Beaver Flour the Best.

Every Man, Woman and Child

Can be their own painter if they buy their ready mixed paints from Geo. Stephens, Quinn & Douglas.

This firm sells only the best grade of paints, viz, the prism brand, made by the Canadian Paint Co., the largest manufacturers of paints in the Dominion. They are always up-todate, and the paint is guaranteed to be exactly as per sample chosen from, and as Geo. Stephens, Quinn & Douglas sell more ready mixed paints than all the other firms in Chatham combined, their paints are always fresh and they are guaranteed pure. Over 60 shades to choose from, price \$1.40 per Gallon, or 35c per quart.

Alabastine and Kalsomine for walls in all shades; Brushes in great variety and for any purpose.

.. For Sale..

Dwellings on West Side Victoria

1st—2 Story Frame House, with mod-ern conveniences, barn, on part park lot 15, 54 feet front, 288 feet deep, \$1600,

2nd—2 Story Frame House, on part same lot, 64 feet front, 180 feet deep, \$1500.

-2; Story frame House, hot water furnace and all modern conven-iences, on East part park lot 15, 156 feet front, 288 feet deep,

Mrs. R. O'Hara.

Geo. Stephens, Quinn & Douglas

Users of Fuel

..Gas Coke..

ticularly at this season of the year? It is easily kindled, burns well, and is

You can get a full cart load of 30 pushels, delivered promptly, for \$3.75.

The Chatham Gas Company Limited.

ROBT. PARK

City Teachers Petition the Public School Board Asking His Appointment as Inspector.

Eulogistic Tribute to Inspector Park's Past Work Throughout the

A well attended meeting of the public school teachers was held last evening for the purpose of framing an expression of their views on the inspectorate appointment and submitting the same to the Board,

The following petition was drafted and over thirty of the teachers, who were present, affixed their signa-

To the Chairman and Members of the Public School Board, Chatham: Gentlemen, - We, the undersigned teachers of the city schools, beg to express to your honorable body the entire satisfaction which the appointment of Mr. Robt. Park as acting inspector of the city schools has given us, and we would further request the Board make his appointment permanent, and for the following reasons:-

The city of Chatham is, and has al-

nent, and for the following reasons:—
The city of Chatham is, and has always been, regarded as an almost integral part of the inspectorate of West Kent. All the examinations at the various centres of West Kent are affiliated with the Chatham Collegiaet Institute, which is the Institute division. The Chatham District Teachers' Association, of which Inspector Park is the head, is composed of the city teachers and the teachers of West Kent, and the failure to appoint Inspector Park would bring about a disruption of these relations and deprive us of this co-operation, assistance and advice, which we so highly values.

Mr. Park has now been inspector of West Kent for nearly seven years, which have been as everyone knows, years of the greatest progress in the educational history of Kent. Indeed it is well known, as so forcibly expressed by the Minister of Education upon the occasion of his last visit to Chatham, that he is regarded by the Education Department as one of the foremost men in the educational development of the Province. During all this time, and with all progress, we have never heard the first breath of dissatisfaction from teacher, trustee or any interested source whatever in connection with the discharge of his inspectoral duties.

For all these reasons we again respectfully request you to accede to our prayer.

THE CHOICE

ther was said. THE PREMIER AS A WITNESS This closed the case for the prosecution, and Mr. Blake called Sir Wilfrid Laurier as the first witness for the defence. After reading the charge, as

embodied in the resolution of the Senate, Mr. Blake asked the witness if it were true. Sir Wilfrid replied:-"It is absolutely untrue." He did not, directly or indirectly, suggest to any one to ask Mr. Cook for money for a Senatorship.

He did not in any way suggest such a thing to the late Mr. Cameron. He never heard of the charge until he saw it in the Montreel Gazette in October last. As to the appointment of Ontario Senators, he always took the advice of his Ontario colleagues when they were unanimous. When they were not, he acted on his own judgment. He denied positively that he ever thought of asking for money for a Senatorship.

Not desiring to cross-examine the Premier, Mr. Ritchie said:-"I certainly think there was nothing adduced to show that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had anything to do with the matter.

SIR R. CARTWRIGHT'S EVIDENCE.

Sir Richard Cartwright, sworn, said the charge, so far as he was concerned, was absolutely untrue. He did not make any such offer, nor did he directly or indirectly suggest such a thing. He never heard of the charge until the Cook statement was published in October last. In answer to a question as to his personal relationship to Mr. Cook's claims for a Senatorship, he said that Mr. Cook was an ardent and faithful supporter of the Liberal party, and the witness thought he was best entitled to consideration, and supported his claims for a Senatorship. Sir Richard was examined as to the expressions in the letters, all of which were answered to the "best of his recollection."

Sir Mackenzie Bowell:—"If there was such a letter shown Mr. Cook by Mr. Cameron, at the Union Station, Toronto, as alleged, in which you were made to state, "Surely our friend Cook must do semething," was if genuine or was it a forgery?"

Sir Richard—I don't believe there was such a letter shown Mr. Cook. I am further confident in my belief because in subsequent conversations with both Cook and Cameron no such letter was mentioned.

PRESTON ON THE STAND. SIR R. CARTWRIGHT'S EVIDENCE.

PRESTON ON THE STAND. w. T. R. Preston was called.

Commons to-day, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain announced that the government had no intention of superseding Sir Alfred Milner as governor of the Transvaal and Orange River Colonies.
Mr. Balfour, the government leader, in response to a question put by Sir Robert Reid, Liberal, announced the government's refusal to premit Massrs. government's refusal to permit Messrs Herriman and Sauer to address the house against the establishment of a Crown colony form of government in South Africa.

South Africa.

The statement of Mr. Chamberlain, the Colonial Secretary, that the government had printed all it knew about the Botha-Kitchener peace negotiations, and that nothing had transpired since, caused James Bryce Liberal, to analyze the terms offered. He contrasted Gen. Kitchener's first views with the final letter incorporating Mr. Chamberlain's suggest porating Mr. Chamberlain's sugges-tions, and expressed the hope that the government would re-open the nego-tiations. Mr. Chamberlain replied that to offer better terms would not be magnanimity, but folly. The government could not afford to show again that it was better to be a rebel than a loyalist. The Cape rebels, as a rule, had been worse than the Boers.

REINFORCEMENTS SENT. Mr. Brodrick, the war secretary filled its engagement, given Feb. 7th, to send thirty thousand mounted reinforcements to Gen. Kitchener, 28,560 men having been actually despatched, while 6,000 men were awaiting trans-

KNIGHTS OF THE GOVERNMENT SUBMIT THEIR DEFENCE

The Premier and Sir Richard Deny the Cook Charges-Preston the Witness Box - Committee Adjourns.

Ottawa, March 28.—Evidence for the defence was put in at the Cook investigation yesterday morning.

The first witness examined was Mr. Cook's appointment to the Senate. Some time previous Mr. Cook had asked him when in Ottawa to enquire as to his chances. He had visited Ottawa, and the call at Cook's office was to report. He told Cook he might get a Senatorship some day, but not then. The Government was anxious to improve the Liberal speaking talent in the Senate. Mr. Cook said he had improved wonderfully as a speaker, and could "pound" Mackenzie Bowell. When in Ottawa he had a conversation with Sir Richard Cartwright. tario Lumber Company, of which Mi Cook is President. He remembered Mr. W. T. R. Preston visiting Mr. Cook's office in the fall of 1898. Preston entered the office and said, "Good morning, Mr. Senator." Preston then went into Mr. Cook's private office and closed the door. When Mr. Pres-When in Ottawa he had a conversa-tion with Sir Richard Cartwright. The impression on his mind from what Sir Richard said was that prominent Liberal speakers would be appointed first, but ne did not promise any Sen-atorship to Mr. Cook for years. Wit-ness would not be positive as to any others he had spoken to on the sub-iect of Cook's appointment. He could ton was shown out Mr. Cook was in a rage, and said to witness :- "What do you think of that d--n scoundrel, Preston? He wanted me to pay \$10,-000 for a Senatorship." Nothing fur-

ject of Cook's appointment. He could not remember having seen any other persons on the matter. He told Mr. Cook he had better go out in the by-"Did you say anything else?"
Witness—Yes. He went on to talk about Senatorships being for sale, and I answered him not to try anything of that kind

about Senatorships being for sale, and I answered him not to try anything of that kind.

"Was it for the purpose of warning him you went there?"

"No; I mentioned that matter when he broached the subject. The impression Mr. Cook had was that if he gave money he would get the Senatorship. Mr. Cook," he said, "had mentioned names, but witness would not say who they were. This was merely a repetition of what he had heard before. Besides, Mr. Cook mentioned his claims on account of party services and contributions, and his claims as a Methodist. Witness told him he had better stay a while on probation."

"Do you think that was cheering news to Mr. Cook?"

"Well, yes."

"That he had to wait and put up more money, and his chances were remote?"

more money, and his chances were remote f"

"Not exactly remote." Witness considered this justified his letter to Mr. Cook—that he wished to see him on urgent business. In conclusion, Mr. Preston volunteered the evidence that he had never sold or offered to sell or to traffic with public offices.

HIS WHILOM COUNSEL.

HIS WHILOM COUNSEL.

Mr. S. C. Biggs, K. C., was called at the request of Senator Jones. Up to a couple of years ago he was solicitor for Mr. Cook, and dictated a number of letters for Mr. Cook, urging his claims to a senatorship. Mr Cook had told him of meeting M. C. Cameron, and was to have a further interview with Cameron, who was trying to aid him in getting the senatorship.

"Mr. Cook had told me that Cameron had asked him to subscribe \$10,000 for the party funds," the witness said.

"And the inference was that the consideration to be given was the senatorship?" asked Mr. Ritchie.

Mr. Biggs would allow the committee to draw its own inferences.

"Wasn't it because ameron wanted this extra subscription that Cook took you along as he didn't want to pay any money?"

Witness replied that he had known about this business a long time. Cook had asked him about the legality of such transactions, whereupon witness told him trafficking in public offices was a criminal offence. At the interview in the Rossin House, Mr. Cook asked witness to see Cameron alone, which he did, and called in Mr. Cook. Witness asked Cameron why Mr. Cook didn't get the senatorship,

Continued from First Page.

Report of De Wet's Capture is Unconfirmed—Reinforcements Sent

Made To Wear.

In opening up our new store we shall endeavor to handle nothing but

Solid Leather Footwear

It means but a few cents more on the cost between a shoddy and a solid leather slip or insole and we intend

For The Money

A cent or two on the cost of a pair of shoes is a small thing compared to the lasting satisfaction it gives to our pations. When once we make a sale, it will be through no fault of the goods we sold if we do not retain you always as a customer. No matter how cheap the shoe or how expensive you will always find the best for your money here.

Received yesterday a special cream for patent and glazed leathers - put up in glass jars at 25c. The best article made for Patent Leather Shoes.