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# BRITISH ATTACKED

### Superior Boer Force Surrounds England's Troops at Robertson's Mills.

### PERILOUS POSITION OF 1,000 MEN

### Three Expeditions Are Marching to the Rescue.

### LORD ROSSLYN IS CAPTURED.

### The Boer Commissioners Are in Milan—Gen. White Returns to England.

(From Monday's Daily.)

London, April 14, via Skagway, April 23.—A British force has been attacked at Robertson's Mills by a superior number of Boers. The British number 1000 men and are thought to include the colonial troops previously reported as having been surrounded near Wepener.

A concerted effort to effect the relief of the endangered column is being made from three directions. A large force has left Bloemfontein and is advancing southward by way of De Wet's Dorp. Gen. Chermiside, with a strong column is nearing the objective point, having last been heard of in the vicinity of Reddersburg. Brabant is coming up from Alewal and will be in a position to cut the enemy off from possible retreat.

Meanwhile across the border the Basutos are closely watching and are prepared to give a warm reception to any Boer forces which may cross the line.

### Newspaper Talk.

London, April 14, via Skagway, April 23.—The unsatisfactory turn which has recently marked the conduct of the South African war has evoked another storm of criticism from the newspapers more sweeping than any which have preceded. From the tenor of the recent articles, there appears to be a deep rooted conviction that the selection of commanding officers has been a series of colossal blunders.

### Rosslyn Captured.

Bloemfontein, April 14, via Skagway, April 23.—A patrol of the Royal Irish has been captured. With the patrol was Lord Rosslyn, who has been sent to Kroonstadt. There is no late information from Kimberley.

### Boer Commissioners.

Milan, April 14, via Skagway, April 23.—Peace commissioners representing the Transvaal government are in this city en route to the Hague. They refuse to disclose the terms upon which they are authorized to negotiate for peace.

### White Returns.

London, April 14, via Skagway, April 23.—Gen. Sir Geo. White has returned to England. On his arrival at Southampton he was greeted with a tremendous ovation.

### Creek Notes.

Last Chance creek is the scene of active operations now. Extensive preparations are being made for the approaching sluicing season. Dams are being constructed and sluice boxes are being arranged for the spring work. Between the mouth of the creek and No. 10 above discovery, the properties have been thoroughly developed, and some very large and rich dumps are now in evidence.

The creek claims have shown remarkably well. On No. 9 from the mouth, operations have been conducted with the assistance of a complete plant of machinery. The claim is owned by

three Frenchmen, and no doubt their efforts will be greatly rewarded. No. 7 above discovery is one of the rich properties on this tributary. Recently, a fourth interest was sold by R. J. Hills to Shea and Brabeson for \$5000. Hills, who is well known in Dawson, expects to dispose of the Poputa lodging house and restaurant, and go to the Koyukuk district behind the river ice.

The benches on Last Chance, in the first, second, and third tiers opposite the lower half of No. 12 above discovery, are fulfilling all the expectations of claim-owners. The hillsides opposite Nos. 4 and 5, are proving to be very valuable. Dago hill is a rich section of the vicinity. It has been quite extensively developed; and its output will be very creditable.

Gold Bottom is somewhat of a disappointment to those who are interested in the creek. Considerable work is being done on Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 21 and 22; but nothing worthy of mention has been discovered. The hillsides and bench properties are not being developed.

### BRIEF MENTION.

W. Garvin is visiting the city. J. Martell is spending a few days in town.

J. M. Tabun is a recent arrival in the city.

M. McNeil is making a brief visit in Dawson.

Peter McStay, of Sulphur, is in town on a visit.

V. Diebold, of Sulphur creek is in town on business.

Harry Smith is greeting his Dawson acquaintances.

J. S. Edgren came to town from the creeks yesterday.

Richard Butler is enjoying a short vacation in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Eowden are visiting friends in the city.

Crown Prosecutor Wad: made a visit to Grand Forks yesterday.

H. D. Irvine is in town. He will remain here for several days.

H. Harvey came to Dawson yesterday to attend to some business matters.

A few spring flowers are in bloom, high up on the hill northeast of the city.

O. W. Hobbs has almost recovered from his recent shut but somewhat severe illness.

The new sidewalk on Mission street was badly needed; and it is a convenience that is much appreciated.

Messrs. Chisholm and Edwards are hastening the improvements which are being made to the Aurora dock.

George L. Graham, of Grand Forks, arrived in the city last night. He will return to the Forks this evening.

Under the direction of Mr. Whitely, the living whist practitioners are becoming quite proficient in their work.

Water from the Klondike is now flowing over the Yukon to a depth of two or three feet at places near the former's mouth.

The incoming mail has passed Selwyn. Owing to the poor condition of the river trail, the consignment is not expected to reach Dawson till Thursday.

The introduction of the iron pipe water system has compelled many private carriers to discontinue the occupation, which was quite remunerative a little while ago.

Within the past three days two insane persons, in addition to the number mentioned in this paper a few days since, have been cared for at the barracks, one of them yet being held that his case may be further considered.

### Decline of the Merchant Marine

Does anybody understand what it is we have lost during the long and dismal period of governmental inaction in behalf of our merchant marine? Statistics of percentage are sometimes pathetic, sometimes exasperating. The figures of the decline of American shipping are both pathetic and exasperating. Forty years ago, in the year before the beginning of the civil war which enabled our chief rival, Great Britain, to supplant us on the seas, the proportion of American trade carried in American ships was 66 per cent, or two-thirds of the whole; and we were competing under favorable conditions with English ships for the foreign commerce of other nations. Thirty years ago, our share of the business of carrying our own commerce was 33.1 per cent; it had dropped from two-thirds to one third. The next ten years brought it down from one-third to less than one-quarter, namely, from 33.1 to 23 per cent in 1879. In 1889 it had diminished to 14.3 per cent. In 1899 it had dwindled to 8.9 per cent. Of the stupendous total last year of \$1,806,876,073 of our exports and imports, more than nine-tenths, or \$1,646,232,067 was borne across the seas in foreign vessels. Less than one-tenth, only \$160,644,006, traveled under the American flag.—New York Sun.

### Opening Dance on Dominion.

D. T. Munroe has bought out the interest of Lee Brown and Mrs. Schoerff in the Dominion hotel, near upper discovery. Mrs. Vose has charge of the culinary department. The house is being refitted and a grand opening dance will be given, Friday, April 27th. Good music will be in attendance and a pleasant time is anticipated.

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# POPULAR ELECTION

### Bill to Elect Senators by Direct Vote Passes Lower House Unanimously.

### WILL BE OPPOSED IN THE SENATE

### Enough Votes Promised to Insure Passage of Carter Bill.

### TEN STEAMERS FOR NOME.

### En Route to Koyukuk—Air Holes in Labarge—Name the Seat of Typhoid.

Washington, D. C., April 15, via Skagway, April 23.—The house has adopted by a practically unanimous vote the bill amending the constitutional provision governing the election of United States senators. The bill provides that an amendment be submitted to the people whereby senators shall be elected by direct popular vote. In order to secure passage a constitutional amendment must receive a two-thirds vote of both houses of congress and a three-fourths vote of the state legislatures. The proposed bill will meet with strong opposition in the senate, and in all probability will fail to receive the required vote.

### Carter Bill Will Pass.

Washington D. C., April 15, via Skagway, April 23.—The Carter Alaska bill will undoubtedly pass the senate. Enough votes are now assured to bring this about.

### Nome Steamers.

Seattle, April 15, via Skagway, April 23.—Ten steamers are due to leave Seattle during the present week for Nome.

### For the Koyukuk.

Skagway, April 23.—Thos. W. Crawford, W. H. Porter and T. H. Drew are here en route to the Koyukuk country. They claim knowledge of three very rich creeks, the principle one of which is called Myrtle.

### Air Holes in LeBarge.

Skagway, April 23.—Lake LeBarge is full of air holes and is not safe in several places for further travel. The river is open in several places above Selkirk and the police have stopped travel in certain parts.

### Exposition Opens.

Paris, April 14, via Skagway, April 23.—The World's exposition was opened here today amid the most imposing ceremonies. Many of the preparations are still in an unfinished state. The United States exhibition is the largest of any country outside of France.

### Typhoid at Nome.

Victoria, B. C., April 15, via Skagway, April 23.—L. Wirt, a mail carrier, arrived here from Nome on the steamer St. Paul. Wirt left Nome on the 8th of January. He says there were 300 cases of typhoid at Nome when he left. He reports 30 deaths among people who left Dawson for Nome over the ice.

### Should Be Abated.

The careless habit of riding on sidewalks by equestrians in the city is one which should be abated, and it probably will be when the police take a man in the act. Today a careless rider piloted a horse as big as any mastodon ever saw in this country by the proverbial oldest settler onto the sidewalk in front of the bakery adjoining Mohr & Wilkins' store, with the result that several boards were broken; and the careless rider galloped away without as

much as stopping to apologize for his uncalled for and wanton depredation. The idea that sidewalks are constructed in Dawson as a race course for horses is an erroneous one that should be at once removed.

### POLICE COURT NEWS.

Captain Scarth filed the magistrate's chair in police court this morning and every seat was occupied when court opened at 10 o'clock.

The first case called was that of John Merchant, who is charged with using a knife on Charles Coffey last Friday. The latter still being unable to appear in court, the case was continued until Friday morning, and Merchant was taken back to jail.

The case of Watkins vs. Sawyer was postponed until this afternoon.

John Dugan, not the man of "Oh, What Did Dugan Do to Him?" fame, was up on the charge of performing worldly labor on the Lord's day, in that he did haul, offal from a stable to the bosom of the river. He acknowledged his guilt, but said he had very little work and thought it not wrong to earn a little money for himself even on Sunday. The court allowed him to go with the warning that he hereafter refrain from manual labor on the Sabbath.

Twenty or more bucketsful of very loud soap were carried from beneath the Comet barber shop yesterday and emptied not on the bosom of the river, but on First avenue, where they were found by Sergeant Wilson and ordered covered with lime. The man who emptied them there, Robert Pritchard, was also found by the officer; but one of the proprietors of the barber shop appeared this morning in behalf of Pritchard, who was in the employ of the firm. His explanation of the presence of the slops on the street did not justify that presence there, and a fine of \$10 and costs was imposed.

A man named Spaletti, a Portuguese, who was found acting strangely on the street Saturday night and who was taken to the guard-house and kept until this morning was, on the recommendation of Dr. Thompson, who had examined as to the mental condition of the man, allowed to go.

### Might Have Been a Blaze

At the conclusion of the entertainment at the Palace Grand last night a flashlight picture was taken which might have ended disastrously. The blaze from the pan sprang up and caught the cloth lining which was just above it. The fire was noticed immediately and was extinguished before it had done any damage. Few of the audience knew what happened.

### Gold Commissioner's Court.

Commissioner Senkler rendered a decision in the case of Wilson, plaintiff, vs. Ramsdell, defendant. The action involved the title to a claim, described as No. 4, on a pup which entered Last Chance at No. 8 above discovery.

The text of the judgment is as follows: "The defendant appearing in court, and the plaintiff not appearing, it is therefore ordered that the plaintiff's cause be dismissed."

### More New Eagles.

At the regular weekly meeting of the Eagles yesterday afternoon seven candidates reposed on flowery beds of ease and received the chaplain's blessing. In the evening the usual social session was held, at which there was a large attendance.

### Territorial Court.

Justice Dugas rendered a few decisions in the territorial court this morning.

In Sherman vs. Rowan, the application which was made for the appointment of a receiver was refused with costs.

In McKay Brothers vs. Victoria & Yukon Trading Company, Justice Dugas decided that the plaintiffs could not be restrained from reading affidavits upon which the writ of attachment is based.

The appeal in Neilson vs. Waugh was dismissed; and an order was entered instructing the clerk to return to the appellant the check which was deposited for security of costs.

The hearing of the motion in Sutton and Bannerman vs. Gates and Wilcoxon was adjourned sine die.

In Williams vs. Faulkner, the motion to continue the receiver was enlarged till Friday.

A motion was made in Rehder vs. Perry to set aside the lis pendens filed in the action. Taken under advisement.

In Hawkins vs. Wright, Mr. Wade, attorney for the plaintiff, was given until tomorrow to select an arbitrator for his client.

An application for the appointment of a receiver was made in Smith et al. vs. Hughes. Taken under advisement.

In McDonald vs. Rice, a motion was made to continue the writ of injunction issued in the cause. Taken under advisement.

In Ames vs. Jensen, a motion was made to file a bill of interpleader. The hearing on the motion was continued to May 4th.

An order was entered in Nelson vs. Artaud requiring the plaintiff to file a certain affidavits on or before May 4th.

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# LORD ROBERTS

### Censures Generals Buller and Warren for Incompetency.

### DISPATCH WAS SENT IN FEBRUARY

### But Was Withheld By Order of War Department.

### NEWSPAPERS DISCOURAGED,

### But Sustain Roberts for Exposing Incapacity, Although Highest Officers Are Involved.

London, April 18, via Skagway, April 23.—The government has waited until the present moment to publish a dispatch from Roberts censuring Generals Buller and Warren, two of the most important commanders under him.

The dispatch was dated February 13th, and has been in the hands of the department since that time. The newspapers are endeavoring to force from the government an explanation as to why the dispatch was not disclosed earlier.

The Daily News, commenting upon the dispatch speaks of its "somewhat appalling language," and says such messages are disquieting and disheartening in no small degree. Following close upon the recall of Gatacre, it has created a wide-spread feeling of anxiety.

Most of the papers sustain Roberts. The Times in particular says that "at the least of Roberts' great services is the judicial impartiality with which he has exposed errors of omission in high places which have cost us so much." The generals mentioned in the dispatch will undoubtedly resign.

Roberts' reports on the 17th that the British force near Reddersburg is still surrounded.

### A Mild Epidemic.

At present there is a mild epidemic of colds and low fevers in Dawson, the cause of which has not been satisfactorily accounted for. Six of the employees of the A. C. Co. were unable to report for duty this morning, and nearly every business house in the city is short-handed from the same cause.

### Sheriff's Sale.

At 2 o'clock p. m. on Thursday, May 2d, 1903, Sheriff Eilbeck will offer for sale at public auction two separate mining interests. In the case of Jephson, Hawkins and Flannery vs. W. B. Thompson, the following described property will be sold under the writ of execution which has been issued in the cause, namely, all of the hillside claim, left limit, opposite the lower half of No. 29 below discovery on Bonanza creek.

In the action of Akinson et al. vs. Hawkins and Hodgins, the sheriff will sell the defendants' undivided interest in the lower half of hillside claim, right limit, opposite No. 5 below Mack's discovery on Quartz creek.

### Water in Abundance.

The McLennan, McFeeley & Matheson Water Copany has constructed a standpipe near the store of Chas. A. Ryan on Second avenue and Sixth streets, which is 40 feet high and from the top of which sufficient water is constantly flowing to supply the wants of the entire city. The water falls over the top of the pipe and descends in the form of a shower on a radius of 20 feet of territory, which this afternoon was completely covered with tubs, buckets, cans and in fact, everything that will hold water; the people of that portion of the city believing that to catch water going to waste is cheaper than to buy it from water wagons.

Special Power of Attorney forms for sale at the Nugget office.

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