

RECEIVED BY WIRE.

STORY OF CARNAGE

Details of the Most Ghastly Incident of the Present War.

THE CONVOY WAS SURROUNDED

On All Sides By an Overwhelming Force of Boers.

MULE TEAMS STAMPEDED.

Resistance Was Impossible—Boers Lost 14 Men—One British Battery Is Almost Annihilated.

(From Monday's Daily.)
London, April 3, via Skagway, April 9.—Details from the scene of the recent disaster to the British convoy tell a terrible story of surprise and carnage. A correspondent on the ground describes the affair as the most ghastly incident of the war.

"After the guns were silenced," he says, "the spruit in which the surprise occurred was found entirely covered with a confused mass of dead and dying men, and horses, with food supplies and the wrecks of wagons scattered on every hand. The scene beggars description and left impressions of horror which will never be erased from the minds of those who witnessed it."

The trap which the Boers laid for the convoy was a most ingenious one, and the wonder is that a single man escaped.

The spruit is almost entirely surrounded by steep, sloping, stony banks. A circular bend to the south is overlooked by the railway embankment. The enemy were in ambush on both sides of the spruit, and on the railway embankment as well, and at a given signal poured a murderous fire onto the little force below.

A scene of frightful confusion followed. The mule teams stampeded, overturning the wagons and preventing anything like an attempt at defense on the part of the escort. The Boers called for immediate surrender, but receiving no answer the fire was continued. A battery finally escaping to the rear of the convoy, wheeled into action and began shelling the Boers with the four remaining guns which had escaped injury. The Boers report their loss as being five killed and nine wounded. Early in the afternoon the Boers collected about the convoy, removed the guns and wagons and permitted the collection of the British dead.

Roberts' report states that 250 British were killed. The force was under command of Broadwood and consisted of the Royal Household Cavalry, the 10th Hussars, two batteries of horse artillery and Pilcher's battalion of mounted infantry. A battery of the royal horse artillery was entirely wiped out with the exception of Major Taylor and the sergeant-major.

Queen Goes to Ireland.

London, April 13, via Skagway, April 9.—The queen has left London for Ireland, where she will spend some time visiting.

Territorial Court.

A very important decision was rendered by Justice Dugas this morning in the case of Frithof Anderson, plaintiff, vs. Alaska Mining Company, defendant. Sometime ago, the plaintiff secured judgment against the defendant. A writ of execution was issued under and by virtue of which the sheriff seized the mining interests of the defendant, and sold them to satisfy the judgment. Thereupon, a motion was made by the

defendant to set aside the proceedings which had been taken by the sheriff under the writ of execution, for the reason that mining interests were not seizable, and if seizable, only under an execution against land. In disposing of this motion today, the justice decided "that the sheriff could, under the writ of execution issued against the goods and chattels of the defendant legally seize its mining interests." The application to set aside the proceedings was therefore dismissed.

In the case of the Queen vs. Mrs. Showers, an order was entered fixing the bail of the defendant at \$3000, to be furnished by two good and sufficient sureties. The prisoner is accused of the crime of arson, alleged to have been committed on the 31st day of March, 1900, the time when the French Hill hotel, situated at No. 17 Eldorado, was destroyed by fire.

The trial of the case of the Queen vs. Frank J. Golden, accused of theft, has been fixed for Tuesday, April 17th.

In Raymond vs. Faulkner, the application to file eight additional affidavits was granted.

The motion in Peters vs. Lubtin was postponed till Tuesday, April 17th.

In Wilson vs. Winter, the application for the appointment of a receiver was enlarged to the 17th instant.

The motion in McKay Brothers vs. the V. Y. T. Co. was continued by consent until April 17th.

In Styles vs. Galpin, the motion was postponed to April 17th; in the meantime, the injunction continues operative.

In Verbus vs. Vincent, the application to continue the injunction was enlarged to April 17th.

New Arrivals.

Jim Adair and Al Smith arrived this morning at 11 o'clock with two sled loads of freight, the advance guard of a fleet of 30, all laden with general merchandise. Adair brought with him two lady passengers, Miss Lucille Elliott and Miss Sommerville. The remainder of the caravan will not reach Dawson until Wednesday or Thursday. The party that arrived this morning were 21 days on the road, which is remarkably good time considering the heavy load hauled. The party is all in fine shape after the journey.

Gold Commissioner's Court.

Commissioner Senkler has rendered a decision in the case of Williams vs. Mulkey et al. The action involved the title of claims Nos. 58a and 58b below discovery on Sulphur. The text of the judgment is as follows:

"The plaintiff not having appeared in this case, and Mr. Barwell having proved the position of the stakes upon Nos. 58, 58a and 58b, by a plat filed herein and sworn to by him on the 17th day of March, 1900, the position of the claims Nos. 58a and 58b, respectively, are hereby decided to be as shown upon said plat."

The case of Gates and Kloke vs. Ekman is being tried in the gold commissioner's court today. The suit involves a boundary dispute between No. 28 Eldorado and the adjoining hillside, opposite the upper half, on the right limit.

Big Clothing Sale.

The coming season promises to be one of great activity in commercial circles and the evidences of this is to be seen by the arrival of immense quantities of goods consigned to Dawson's merchants and brought in over the ice.

The attention of the writer was attracted in this regard by the great activity manifested in the Star Clothing house today, as case after case of clothing, shirts, boots and shoes, fancy neckwear and general gents' furnishing goods were being unpacked and placed on the shelves of the front street store. Mr. A. S. Levine, the enterprising proprietor of the Star Clothing house, when asked what he was going to do with all these goods answered:

"I am going to surprise the people of Dawson. I shall sell complete, well-made suits, tailor-cut, for \$15 a suit. I go direct to the manufacturer in buying my goods and do not deal with the jobber or middleman, neither do I buy in Victoria or any coast city. These goods come direct from the factory and the purchaser does not have to pay any middle profit. That is why the Star Clothing house is doing the business and why we will continue to prosper where others fail."

When asked if he intended making a special sale in other lines as well as that of clothing he answered:

"Yes; sometime this month I will sell shoes for \$3 a pair which are now retailing anywhere for \$6, and will sell all our goods in the same proportion. You can tell your friends," he added, "to drop in and see for themselves. Our prices will make them think they are in New York city and forget they are in Dawson."

RECEIVED BY WIRE.

FAULT FOUND

With British Commanders for Allowing Boers to Collect and Surprise Them.

PLUMER'S WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

Great Anxiety Regarding the Food Supply of Besieged Mafeking.

STR. ALPHA'S BOLD MOVE.

Cold Weather and Snow at Skagway—Trains Are Delayed—Carmack Will Wait.

London, April 3, via Skagway, April 9.—The disaster to the British on March 31st in which most heavy losses were sustained is still being severely criticized here, some war critics asserting that the disaster to our troops was due to inability on the part of the commanders, and especially of General French in that he failed to head off General Oliver and other commands that escaped from Orange river. How such a large number of Boers could collect so near the headquarters of the British army without the knowledge of the officers in command is regarded as most remarkable and indicative of loose practice on the part of those officers.

Anxiety regarding conditions at Mafeking is greatly increased by the disastrous news from the front. The mayor of East London cabled Roberts for news of Mafeking and Roberts wired that he had been too busy fighting for three days to learn anything of Mafeking, further than that Plumer's relief column had been forced to retire with heavy loss. It is much feared that the besieged city is short of food. The war office here has no knowledge of the whereabouts of Plumer and his command, which is another cause for anxiety.

A dispatch from Kimberley says that for the second time since the beginning of the war there is great activity among the Boers, on the Vaal river where 6000 burghers are holding various points on Fourteen Streams; also Christinia. Seven hundred burghers occupy Wirand and 400 are laagered at Boatsop.

There is no particular news from Pretoria, other than that the 3000 British prisoners held there are comfortably located.

Contraband Steamer.

Skagway, April 9.—News has been received here that the steamer Alpha sailed on the 4th from Vancouver, B. C., with 300 passengers for Nome and without obtaining a permit to land at an American port; but will take chances on landing her passengers and freight three miles off shore in small boats and lighters.

Cold Weather at Skagway.

Skagway, April 9.—The weather has turned cold within the past 36 hours and the trail on the upper lakes and rivers will be greatly benefited thereby. Snow delayed the trains between here and Bennett yesterday.

There are still many persons here who expect to reach Dawson over the ice.

Carmack Will Wait.

Skagway, April 9.—George W. Carmack, the original discoverer of gold in the Klondike district, is here on his way to Dawson, but will probably not attempt to complete his journey until the opening of navigation.

At the Grand.

Tonight will witness at the Grand the first presentation in Dawson of the

celebrated comedy drama, "The Black Flag, or Brother Against Brother," by a carefully selected cast from the finest talent in the city. Special scenic effects will be introduced, and the play for this week beginning tonight will be the best and most entertaining ever presented in the Yukon.

Following the play will come the famous "Clemenceau Case," illustrated by living models, this being a production of the fertile brain of Director John Mulligan.

Among the many vaudeville stars who will appear this week in new specialties are O'Brien, Jennings and O'Brien, Mulligan and Linton, Cecil Marion, Conchita, and 25 others.

On Friday night of this week Pat Malloy and Dick Case will meet on the stage of the Grand in a scientific glove contest for points. Don't fail to see the opening of the week's program tonight.

Mrs. Peterson Buried.

Mrs. Peterson, the young wife of Capt. Julius Peterson, mention of whose death after seven months suffering from consumption was made in Saturday's issue of this paper, was buried yesterday afternoon from the family residence. Services suitable to the sad occasion were conducted by Rev. E. A. Hetherington.

Census Taking.

The work of taking the census of the Yukon district began today. 22 members of the police force having instituted the work this morning. When a person has been "interviewed" he is given a yellow check which immunizes him from future onslaughts by the gentlemen in quest of information. Between 3000 and 4000 persons had been recorded up to 3:45 this afternoon.

POLICE COURT NEWS.

While all nature is rejoicing in the gladsome sunshine, the herald of summer and good cheer, there is one spot in Dawson over which hang like a wet horse blanket the dark clouds of strife and discord. The seat of this perturbation is on the "shady" side of Fourth avenue, near Third street, where a number of women reside, among whom two, Gertie and Florence, are at swords points, the one with the other. A few days ago Gertie was seized with a destructive fit in which she smashed a window pane, through which the sunlight of heaven was admitted to the abode of Florence. The latter invoked the aid of the law and Gertie was fined \$10 and costs for her rash act. The fine was paid, but in the heat of Gertie there lingered a deep and deadly longing to get even, for she knew that "revenge is molasses." Yesterday, Gertie having matured her plans, she invoked the aid of the law to assist her in obtaining the desired revenge on Florence. The result was that two policemen raided the latter's house and arrested Gustav Bohard, who in court this morning plead not guilty to the charge of having no visible means of support and living off the earnings of dissolute women. He was remanded until 2 p. m. tomorrow, when the case will be heard. In the meantime Bohard is in jail, and dark and ominous looks are cast through the atmosphere that pervades the vicinity of Fourth avenue and Third street.

The case of Andrew Aichison vs. A. Gustavson for wages, was concluded this morning when, after hearing the same additional testimony, an order was made against the defendant for \$41.75 and costs. The original amount sued for was \$83.

During the remainder of this week Capt. Starnes will preside as police magistrate.

A Priest's Views.

Father Patrick O'Brien of Toledo, Ohio, recently wrote Cardinal Vaughan as follows:

"As an Englishman you, no doubt, think you are bound to uphold your government, right or wrong, but this is not Catholic doctrine. You are not bound to obey the queen if she commanded you to do a wrong, nor are your priests and people bound to obey you when you command them to support a government waging an unjust war.

"You say that justice is on the side of England. The civilized world denies this, both Protestants and Catholics, Christian nations look upon your war with the Boers as the most unjust ever waged by a civilized government. Catholic theology teaches us that soldiers engaged in an unjust war cannot lawfully kill an enemy even in self defense, because they are the unjust aggressors. It follows from this teaching that all who engage in an unjust war, knowing it to be such, are in a state of mortal sin, and if they die in impotence suffer the loss of their souls.

"Those are the teachings of the Catholic Church on the subject of war."

Weather Report.

The maximum temperature the 24 hours preceding 9 o'clock this morning was 48.5 degrees above zero.

The minimum temperature during the same period of time was 2.5 degrees above.

Saturday night the thermometer registered below zero for the first time during the present month. The temperature was 5 degrees below.

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

CROWN GROUND

Is Being Disposed of Now By the Department at Ottawa.

COMPENSATION POLICY PROPOSED

For Those Who Have Lost Claims By Mistake.

THE COMMISSIONER EXPLAINS

The Methods By Which Grants to Government Fractions May Be Obtained.

About a month ago, Gold Commissioner Senkler was notified that the federal government at Ottawa had determined to sell by public auction, at Dawson, all the placer mining ground which is now reserved to the crown, excepting creek claims on Dominion and all those claims which are located within hydraulic concessions. In accordance with the suggestions of local officials, the time for this auction sale has been fixed for July, 1900. This plan for the disposition of crown properties was gratefully received by the people of the territory; and many persons of moderate capital contemplate making a bid for certain fractional claims. They are ignorant of the fact that grants for government properties can be obtained now; and that those who are familiar with the methods of procedure are busily engaged at the present time in securing title to desirable crown claims.

Assistant Gold Commissioner Bell will receive offers of purchase now; and such offers will be forwarded to the department of the interior for acceptance or rejection. Only two claims, however, have been disposed of in this manner; and it is not likely that any more properties will be sold privately.

The government has adopted the policy of compensating those persons who have lost claims through the error of the local recording office. These individuals may obtain grants for reserved ground in order that they may be repaid for losses which they have sustained by reason of clerical mistakes. Their statements of fact are presented to Commissioner Bell. He makes an investigation; if he concludes the complaint will be just, he forwards the same to Ottawa recommending that a grant be issued to the applicant. There have been 26 applications of this class made to the department; and 15 of them have been granted. The other 11 are still under consideration. In no instance have the powers at Ottawa refused to comply with the recommendations of the local commissioner. The applicants are required to select such fractions as are proportionate in value to the claims, which have been lost.

It can be readily understood that this manner of issuing grants is subject to gross abuse, unless the greatest vigilance and care be exercised by the commissioner. If the government attempts to remedy all the wrongs which have been occasioned by the regulations and clerical errors, it is doubtful if there will be any claims offered for sale next July. No doubt it would be interesting reading, if the names of the 15 successful applicants were published; but Commissioner Bell declines to disclose their identity.

In speaking of the matter recently Mr. Bell said:

"It is not probable that the government will sell privately any crown properties. One or two such sales have occurred, but recently a letter was written from Ottawa rejecting a private bid, the reason that its acceptance would conflict with the regulation respecting the public auction of claims next July. However, I will receive any fair offer for crown property, and forward it to the proper official at Ottawa; but I am satisfied that it will not be accepted.

"Persons who have been deprived of claims through clerical mistakes may be compensated by receiving grants for fractional properties whose value is proportionate to the claims lost."

(Continued on page 5.)

WHEN

The Pulse

Many Chances New Ones.

As the looks forward justice has walk abroad degree of great does having seen lie in and by which egress or months, participation relief of part by the opening of pulse of formulate and decision. The first opening changes spirited. It is very June and unsmiling yet know and on opening confident ber here navigation known. or be greater. Nearly vicinity they hope of navigation two and years her den desired consequences outside. are heard my family tion operation. The men of '98 this sum of '98 to children June even to the garden. In common to see a look care hairs, put the what dren. It of women navigators. Many navigators which the last fall, found the afraid the chain of the out paper evagation, a forwarded as soon figures of for the happening past hat papers tion is here wh arrivals are dread Many or listen of other for Nome join the there is fortune. There the city they lea gation, number during they played sentence able open guess he considered at that tence. the city One which naviga will be have be up last long, co They are