POOR DOCUMENT

TIE ELMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN. N. B., MAY 19, 1900.

Referred Election Cases to the Privilege Committee When They ' Should Have Gone Before a Supreme Court Judge.

sented to the House today an additional amount to meet the necessary expenditure

to carry on the work of legislation. In reply to Sir Charles Tupper, the min ister of finance said that the supplementary for the current year would be down in a couple of days and the others some days

This being done, Sir Louis Davies pro-ceeded to reply to Mr. Borden's motion to refer the West Huron and Brockville election cases to the privileges and elec tions committee. The minister of marine and fisheries said that no one recognized more than he did that it was through the ballot box that stable government was to be secured and therefore that punishmen should follow those who interfered with a free expression of the will of the people in that way. While this was correct, care should be taken as to the punishment that followed and the mode of procedure. In this case parliament, in his opinion, acted hastily in referring to the West Huron election case to the privileges and elec tions committee. That committee was not one to which ought to be referred questions of fact. Questions of law might well be referred to that committee. It was composed of the best lawyers in the House. The British parliament had withdrawn from that committee all questions of fact relating to controverted elections becaus it was felt that partizan feelings would enter into the proceedings and overbalance all other considerations. At the privileges and elections committee there would be one set of members present today and a different set tomorrow. At no two meet ings would the same members be present. There was no counsel present to watch and regulate the conduct of the enguiry Coming back to the present case and Si Louis pointed out that parliament was now sitting three and a half months, the member for Halifax (Borden) acted with great negligence if he wanted the House to act, in not moving it before he did. The mem ber felt that he was blamable in this re gard and therefore tendered an explan ation. That explanation was that he moved it 13 days after the House met, and although too late to be dealt with by a motion in that way, this session he thought that the premier should have per mitted it to go through as an unopposed motion. The premier had no more right over a matter of that kind than the most uble member of the House. When a member asked any motion to stand when it was brought up as an unopposed motion then the premier could not do anything else but say stand.

Ottawa, May 15-(Special)-The supplies for the House of Commons and Senate being about exhausted, Mr. Fielding pre-sented to the House to the superior of the for McLean and no one would suspect him f aiding Holmes in his election. The conclusion which Sir Louis had come to after a study of the matter was

that it was not in the public interest that these cases should be referred again to the mamittee on privileges and elections. The law provided a full, ample and complete emedy for the discovery and punishment

of electorate frauds in the controverted elections act and in the corrupt practices elections and enquiries act. Under either one or both the fullest and most effective enquiry could have been made and the facts proved to the bottom under the latter act in every proper case not at the expense of the petitioners but of the govern-ment. The jurisdiction of the House as regards these enquiries was now strictly mited to enquiries into the conduct of its electoral officers and their punishment for wrong doing. He would say that there was not the slightest ground submitted to jus-tify the reference of the Brockville case, to deputy returning officer being charged with any offence, and the reference of the case under the evidence would establish a dangerous precedent and one which could be used by an unfair majority to defeat the intention, spirit and policy of parlianent with respect to enquiries into wrongdoing or irregularities at elections, that if any one had good ground of complaint against any of the officers he could have prosecuted them under the dominion elec tions act of the could have proceeded the acts cited, and no one having done so and no petition having been presented to the House by any one it was not in the public interest that the House should, at the mere invitation of a member not pre-tending to speak from personal knowledge, unsupported by any sworn statements of ablectors or others, enter upon an enquiry ab ties in West Huron, embracing the exam-ination of over a hundred witnesses in the wo polls where irregularities were charged, was for all essential purposes ample and complete; that with respect to Deputy 'ummings the evidence satisfied him that ie was not guilty of the charge preferred ainst him, and while Deputy Farr's con luct in avoiding services of summons and efusing to attend to give evidence would ustify the committee in making every pr mption against him, the proper, if not the only effective way, to punish him was by prosecution under the dominion elections act; that the coupling of the de-

nand for a reference of both cases in one side of Pretoria as Dereeniging, on the e amended, was most unfair to the Vaal, is indefensible. Heavy guns are being mounted at Pretoria, but Generals Botha and Limmer are agreed that ultilouse, and prevented a proper considertion of the question whether it was desirable in the public interest to re-open the enquiry in the West Huron case at mate success is 'impossible'. President Kruger is obstinate and a majority of the his stage of the session under these cir-Transvaalers hold firmly with him." It is estimated that the Transvaalers cumstances. Sir Louis concluded, "I feel that I am acting in the public interest in can still muster 30,00 men on the fighting elegating all parties who think there has been wrong doing or corruption at either line. General Buller's advance, as his tele or both of these elections to the courts pro-rided by law for enquiry and punishment crams indicate, was by the instructions o Lord Roberts, and it will cease or go for f these acts when proved, and I am ward as Lord Roberts may direct. Cer-tain commentators affiliated to the war strongly of the opinion that while the rivileges and elections committee may be most excellent tribunal for the elucidaoffice, say that General Buller's orders to ion of all points of law having refreence plemented by an order to drive them completely out of Natal and then move o the election of members of this House and one well qualified to determine upon to Harrismith. the legality of returns which returning officers may make of the votes received, it General Rundle and General Brabant are taking possession of the wide regions around Ladybrand almost without opis a most inefficient tribunal from its freposition. They find the country plentiful-ly supplied with cattle, horse feed and quently changing membership the absence of counsel to conduct either prosecution or defence, the impossibility of properly examining and cross-examining the wit-General Rundle is reducing hi transport and feeding his men and aninesses, to reach conclusions on disputed questions of fact." (Cheers.) mals largely off the country. The Boers in that quarter surrender Mr. Powell (Westmorland) followed. He daily, and it is the expectation of the correspondents on the spot that the eastsaid that there was no doubt but an oranized conspiracy existed to steal elec ern section of the Free State will soon ions. The same crowd, he said, operbe as tranquil as the western. ted in West Elgin, West Huron and Brockville. He read affidavits from Pritchett, whom Judge Morgan charactercould be quickly reinforced. Lord Roberts contributes a line to the zed as a self-convicted liar, stating that one O'Gorman had sent him into some of the constituencies to teach deputy return-ing officers how to substitute ballots. liscussion going on in the press as to when the war will end by the following Pritchett said that he instructed Cumtelegram, dated Monday, and sent through mings in this way. Mr. Powell said that Cummings could not be cleared of the charge of deliberate perjury. He concluded nquiry by an appeal for purity in elections. Mr. Britton (Kingston) who replied, said that the speech of Mr. Powell was the mose unfair that he had ever heard in the House. There never was so unfair a speech lelivered before any deliberative assembly steyn said: and still the member for Westmorland was a lawyer. He (Powell) without any notice or warning read an affidavit from a man of Pritchett's stamp slandering the good desert. name of respectable citizens. This was done under the privilege of parliament. Mr. Britton continuing, said that Mr. Powell invited that Pritchett be prosecuted for perjury. Whoever heard of a man being prosecuted for perjury in Canman being prosecuted for perjury in the state of claration making food and clothing con-ada for an afiidavit made in the state of traband has nearly destroyed the useful-boar.) This was on a par with R. L. ness of Delagoa Bay to the Transvalers, bear board a provention of the bar of hear.) This was on a par with R. L. Borden reading a confession that wrong was done in the local election in West Elgin to prove that corruption existed in West Huron and Brockville. (Hear, hear.) Pritchett's affidavits had been secured for a sum of money paid him by Barker, the Conservative organizer. The Conservatives had a history which they should read. He closed with expressing the opinion that no further good could be effected by sending these cases to a committee. Thousands of dolars were already wasted in this way and it would

came out victorious. This is two victories to encourage the weak-kneed burghers. for the old Senate in one week, which bids well for the future. Sir Mackenzie Bowell led his forces en the one side and Senator Mills on the other. The latter was greatly assisted by Snyman and said: 'I was lucky enother. The latter was greatly assisted by Senator Watson who is the Liberal whip, the best the Senate ever had. The bill provided a grade for flax for Manitoba and Sir Mackenzie Bowell wanted this to apply to the dominion. Senators Per'ey and Bernier forsook their provinces to store to the dominion. Senators Perley and Bernier forsook their provinces to stand by their leader but the result was 19 in favor of the bill and 17 for Sir Mackenzie's amendment. The bill was read the third time.

The amount of the supplementaries which Mr. Fielding brought down for lég-islation today was \$96,618.

War Notes and News.

difts. At six this morning the first can-non shot proclaimed the opening of the battle. The British hosts could be seen advancing in solid masses. Their cavalry hung on our flanks. Their infantry were less easily discernable on the grass. The sky was clouded with smoke from the burning veldt. "The fighting began at Philip Botha's position above the railway bridge. A British field battery pushed across the iver and bombarded the kopies Philip Batha was holding so heavily. previous day one of the Horse Guards and had captured several of Col. Baden-Powell's few remaining horses. Major F. B. Baillie has sent to the

north of Kroonstad. The Boers have held a council of war at Lindley, and the British spies have learned that the Boers decided to hold

Harrismith as long as possible. Lord Roberts' infantry are still at Kroonstad. Lord The railway laborers are hard at work, and the engineers hope to have the line

of incredulous Britishers two telegrams

London, May 15.—A despatch from the Boer laager at Rietsprnit, dated Thursday, May 10, via Kroenstad, describing the Zand river fighting, says: "A report was received last night that

the British had crossed one of the lower drifts. At six this morning the first can-

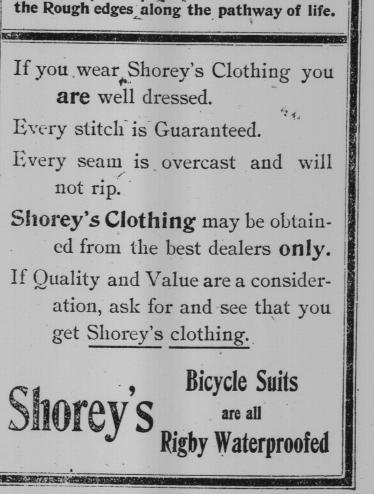
ance here. The British relief column is Batha was holding so heavily that they due there now. Ten days ago General Snyman was having difficulty in keeping the burghers together, owing to the ap-proach of the British; and when the last cannonade the British infantry advanced; but they met with so hot a reception that Associated Press despatch left Mafeking on May 7, the Boers had killed on the Briti-h cavalry had crossed the river, moving straight north. General Botha sent the Standderton burghers, with a battery of cannon, to head them off. The Major F. B. Baillie has sent to the tions act or if he complained of general corruption he could have proceeded under the acts cited, and no one having done so and no petition having been presented to the House hy avy one it was not in the this time, about 11 o'clock, the centre of the burghers gave way w thout cause. Upon this Philip Botha and all the others gave way. The Standderton and Bethel commandoes, with the Irish Brigade covered the retreat to Kroonstad.

"Otherwise than in the retreat from Brandfort and the Vet River, the British pressed hard on the retreating barghers All our cannon and comm prought out and as far as is known, our asualties were confined to a dozen wound

"Gen. Botha, addressing the burghers. said:

"At this same Zand river Great Britain in 1852 signed a treaty acknowledging the full sovereignty of the Transvaal. Now,

repaired within three days. The prairie has put on a russet winter coat. The nights are bitterly cold; but the days are bitterly cold; but



THE WELL DRESSED MAN avoids many of

Queens County News. For the Nova Scotia Legislature--Terrible Electrical Storm--House Struck, Chimney Split, But No One Was Hurt--Yarmouth Woman

For the Nova Scotia Legislature--Terrible Electrical Storm--House Struck, Chimney Split, But No One Was Hurt--Yarmouth Woman Dead. Yarmouth, May 15-This was nomina-tion day for the vacancy in the local legis-lature. The only candidate nominated was the Liberal candidate, Mr. A. F. Stoneman, who was nominated by Mr.

coat. The nights are bitterly coid; but the days are hot. The Free Staters are surrendering in larger numbers than after the occupation of Bloemfontein. One officer of the Transvaal artillery says: "There will be no serious fighting this side of Pretoria as Dereeniging, on the

INCIDENTS OF WAR.

Letters from Second Contingent Men.

From Trooper McIntosh. Green Point Camp, Cape Town, April 1. Dear Mother, --- I have not much time at resent to write. The evenings are the only time we have to ourselves, and some of them I am on duty, and we have nothing but the ground to write on with a candle for a light. There are nine me in the tent that I am in, among them Sergt. Ryan, Jack Parks and Ralph Mark-

I have been talking to some of the Gordons, Seaforths, Dublin Fusiliers and others who have been at the front. Most of these are wounded, the others sent here through sickness. I was talking to one of the York-hires who lost, his fingers, and had a bullet through his helmet and one through his right side. He showed me the wound and he had the tunic on with the hole in it, and it was soaked with blood. The bullet went in at his back and out at his breast.

I wish I had a week off with my gun. There are lots of snipe and plover right on the camp ground. We are on the shore, something like Red Head Marsh, but about one hundred times larger. We went off one evening to tea, which was provided by some of the ladies. We had calle hieruits choses and the units. cake, biscuits, cheese and tea; quite a change from bad canned meat, half cooked bread and hard tack three times a day. We have porridge in the mornings, but it is all lumps. They don't boil it, just put the meal into big tins and pour boiling water on it; then get into it with their hands that I don't think they ever

wash. The climate here is fine; just like it is in August at home. The nights are cooler, but I sleep on the sand with one blanket over me. This is a fine place for fruit. Grapes are three pence a pound, the finest I ever saw, and musk-melons and water-melons six pence each, and other kinds of fruit just as cheap. There are hedges of plumbago and oleander 15 feet high, and lots of other plants that we would have to grow in the hothouse at

When Mr. Borden wanted his motion to go through as an unopposed motion Mr. Britton and Mr. McMullen both said stand, as they wished to talk to it and the premier had to say stand.

It was well known by every member of the House that if a motion was left off the order paper until two weeks of the session was over then there was no chance of its being gone on with that session Yet this was the very thing that Mr. Bor den did. If Mr. Borden did not know this there were many old and experienced par entarians who did. When Mr. Border could not justify his own negligence h tried to blame the government, but the government did not control the order paper. Again the motion was put in a way so that it could not be amended. The government had to take it as it stood or reject it. There was no opportunity given of amending it. For instance, some parties might want to refer with West Huron election case to the committee and not the Brockville case. This opportunity was not given the House. There was no chance of separating them. The gentleman who made the motion would not permit them being separated. In doing so he was per-fectly within his rights but if he had been anxious for his motion to have been adopted he would have given a chance to

have it amended Sir Louis Davies then referred to the Queens election case in New Brunswick, when Returning Officer Dunn declared George F. Baird elected although he was in a minority. In that case Sir John Thompson laid down the principle that all que tions affecting the elections act should be referred to the courts with the one exception, namely, as to the disqualification of members of parliament. He (Sir Louis) voted against the motion which Sir John Thompson then advocated and which the gentleman opposite supported because he held that the House had not bereft itself of the privilege of dealing with its own officers, such as returning and deputy returning officers. He was of the opinion that Returning Officer Dunn should have been called upon to amend his decision and see that the candidate who had the majority was returned. But the gentleman site voted against that proposition. The only one who voted for it on the Conservative side was the present lieutenant governor of Manitoba. Outside this there re sufficient means in the courts to deal with all matters which would arise in con nection with corrupt practices in election In the first place there was a statute passed in 1886 for the purpose of enabling any 25 electors who would sign a petitio to get an official enquiry before the courts If it was thought that there was corruption in any constituency then 25 electors could at once get an investigation by presenting to the governor general a petition 60 days after the election or to within 14 days of the next meeting of parliament. The gov-ernor general would appoint judges from the supreme or superior courts to make an enquiry. Within these two statutes there was ample means for an investigation outside of what he he'd ought to be enquired into by the House itself.

Sir Louis was not now going to say whether West Huron should or should not have been referred to the committee. It was enough that it was referred, but there was no evidence of any kind shown why Brockville election case should hav been referred. There was no charge agains any returning or deputy returning officer Something had been said in regard to a man named Pritchett and Judge Morgan aid of that man that he was a self-con victed liar. What they had seen in regard Brockville was that one man had been tried and acquitted and another brought their ballots were not found there that the fault lay with the deputy returning officer. Here Sir houis pointed out the only reason that the case was referred to nmittee was to investigate the conduct of the officials. The seat of the member was not in question and no one pre-tended that it was, although the reports Sir Wilfrid, in reply to Hon. Mr. Fosin the Conservative press made it appear ter, said that he did not know when Hon. that the member was on trial and that they were investigating corrupt practices.

a subtraction that have the

ne useless to squander any more Mr. Bennett (Simcoe) followed. Dr. Russell moved the adjournment of

Tuesday, says: the debate and the House adjourned at

11.40 o'clock. Ottawa, May 15-(Special) -On motion to adjourn the House, Mr. Taylor read a letter which has appeared in several French newspapers to the effect that dis-agreeable news expected is from Anticesti-on account of the Fox By settlers show-to the garrison. All that can be ascer-tained of a reliable character follows: "The Boers, using artillery, attacked the town Saturday. Very soon the Kaffir location was in flames. Some say as the ing no signs of woongress to leave, not, withstanding the offer which the government had made of transportation and land. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that North Bay up and afterwards discharged without settlers had selected a plot of land on the shore of Lake Winnipeg or Lake Winnipeg or Lake Winnipeg or the contuston, the Boers gained possession of the Kaffir location, from which point of vantage they brought guns to bear on the town at close range. bear on the town at close range. "By an adroit move the garrison despite actuation and the government would carry them to the C. P. R. station. They asked Monier to give them a respite from the judgment which he had not the judgment which he had got against them, but he refused. This was all the rounded

Donald Cummings, the deputy returning today with the flax bill and the Liberals of victory were flying about everywhere prentices.

cupied Dundee. About 2,500 of the enemy making.

cupied Dundee. About 2,500 of the enemy icft yesterday for Glencoe, where they en-trained. Their wagons also left yesterday for De Jagers Drift and the Dannahauser road. Their Kaffirs said they were going to Laing's Nek. Almost every house in Dundee is completely looted. The navaga-tion colliery is all right. The machinery of the Dundee collieries is destroyed. The houses of the town are damaged, but are structurally intact." London, May 16-The war office has received the following from Lord Roberts, dated Kroonstad, May 15, 1 pt m.:

keep the Boers employed have been sup- last until about June 10."

received here report very heavy fighting at Mateking. Pretoria reports that Mate-king has fallen and the Netherlands Rail-way Company has i-sued a statement that Col. Baden-Powell has captured a large force of Boers. A war bulletin posted at Pretoria May

year. 12 announced that the British were advancing to the relief of Mafeking. Maseru, Basutoland, May 15-A portio

of Brabant's Horse occupied Ladybrand today and another portion is pashing on to Clocoland.

Lisbon, May 15 .- It is rumored here to General Rundle and General Brabant but his forces are disposed so that if any point should be attacked, the troops there

Woodstock News.

Woodstock, May-13-The first fire alarm a correspondent who had made the direct system in this town was put in some 15 years ago, operating only street boxes on quiry: "I regret that I cannot give any reply a ground circuit and giving excellent reto your question, as it is impossible at present to predict when the campaign sults. A few years later the system had been enlarged by the addition of about The view of the other side is reported 24 fire signals placed in each fireman's by a correspondent to whom President house, enabling each to readily locate Steyn suid: "Sooner than leave this country to fall into the hands of the British, I would destroy all our houses and leave it a destroy all our houses and leave it a

capable of doing main line service, as The relations between the Transvaal used by this system in the past. The and the Portuguese appear to be strain-ed. The Portuguese consul at Pretoria, according to reports from Lisbon, has been ordered by President Krager to leave the country. The Portuguese de-ciaration making food and clothing con-tral and has nearly destroyed the nearly destroyed the nearly Senhor Joaquin Machado, governor which have proved satisfactory. He also general of Portuguese East Africa, is be-introduced the relay system in this town. ing entertained at Beira and the British officers who are passing through are show-ty Agricultural Society was held in the ing him courtesies. The Lisbon cabinet is understood to count on British pro-to consider the question of holding a tection in the event of Boer agreesion. The war office last evening issued an Brown was in the chair. It was decided ubstract of British casualties since the to hold a fair at the exhibition grounds

wounded sent home, whom num ber 8,991. London May 16-A despatch to the London, May 16-A despatch to the Mr. Simonson will assume the rectorship Daily Mail from Lorenzo Marquez, dated of the churches at Centreville and East "There is now no doubt that there was Florenceville. The Woodstock brass band has been

reorganized and has secured a room in the Connell building, Queen street, where the members will practice the coming

Be Called Out.

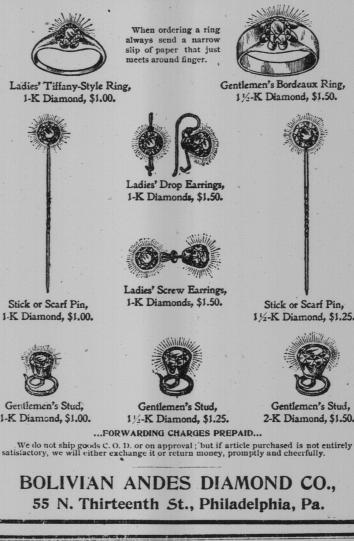
New York, May 15 .- The joint arbitration committee of the National Metal Trade Association and the International Association of Machinists was in session to-day at the Murray Hill Hotel. It has been reported that there is a deadlock and that if an agreement is not reached soon 100,000 men may be called out, the strike extendhighting followed; but, according to the latest reports, the Boers still hold the out in regard to this matter today. The committee has now been in session severa days and, so far as is known, nothing definite has been accomplished. The points

"Baden-Powell reports under date of May 7, all going well. Fever is decreasing, the garrison is cheerful and the food will last until about June 10." "Lorenzo Marquez, May 15.—Telegrams received here report very heavy fighting at Mateking. Pretoria reports that Mate-king has fallen and the Netherlands Rait.

count of the recent wet weather.

Bolivian Andes Diamonds JEWELRY THAT WILL STAND THE TEST OF TIME. Diamonds that will not wear glassy. Settings that will not wear brassy.

Bolivian Andes Diamonds are cut from Diamond Topaz Quartz, mined in the Andes Mountains, Bolivia, South America. Equal in every way to the genuine diamond-the same finish, the same lustre, the same brilliancy, and the same fiery, blue-white color-the only perfect substitute ever discovered. We import, cut, polish and mount them ourselves, and have the exclusive sale in the United States and Canada.



FREE CAME RA Structions. Takes a picture

onets and five rounds in the magazine and a hundred rounds in our bandoliers. The officer in charge of us gave us orders before we left camp what to do if they tried to escape. He said he fully expected they would try it, as it was the last chance they would have. He told us if we had to use the bayonet to put our strength to it, and put it in the right

place, and not stick them round the legs, but they did not give us any trouble. They look just like our own countrymen, and are about from 14 to 65 years of age. They don't lke us Canadians. They say we are devils, so I don't expect we will strike many friends among them. I have lost track of the time of year altogether. It is now five o'clock in the afternoon here. It will be about eleven with you. There are a lot of Boer horses with u and they are a hard looking lot.

(Sergt. Ryan mentioned in this letter has been captured by the Boers.) From Trooper Anderson

After leaving the camp near Cape Town we rode out here, Stellenbosch, 40 miles from Cape Town, I was a little tired when we got here, not being used to it, but we are having a good time here, all the boys are well and that is the main thing. The only thing against the place is the want of good drinking water, there is lots of good water for cooking or washing, but poor drinking, but otherwise everything is all right. We have good grub and a com-fortable had on the sand, in a tent, * * ortable bed on the sand, in a tent. I cannot quite realize we are in South Africa when I go out, through the wood it is just like up at Gaspereaux, the same kind of trees are here—the Norway pine and the white pine-and great oaks, that look just like the maples, the only difference is the bamboo and palm. The palms are like the little one you have at home, that closes its leaves at night. They grow here very plentiful. I have seen some 15 feet high. I send you some of the seed. * * * Fruit is very plentiful here. We are living on grapes and green figs. As we were passing through the town on our way to camp the people gave us some quinces and water-melon, the quinces are sweet and not like we have at home. * * Everything goes by \pounds s. d., and took us some time to get onto it. The people knew we were green and took advantage of us, as we had some Canadian to be of us, as we had some Canadian to be-changed into English we took it to the Massey-Harris agency here and they charged 40 per cent. for changing; needless to say we did not get much changed. * * I have just returned from foraging and we will have stewed quince for supper. We went to look for firewood and came upon a quince orchard, there were about 1,000 barrels growing in that one orchard, so

we picked a pail full and will have them for supper. * * * The Maxim gun for supper. * * * The Maxim gun corps cook their own meals, and mess by themselves, so we have extras whenever we can get them. There are only twelve of us in the corps and we have things all our own way. We are not bothered with a lot of officers like the other members of the squadron. * * * There is no doubt the Canadians have made an everlasting name for themselves, and I see plainly that the idea is to give a work there. that the idea is to give us every chance, as we are being pushed forward as rapidly as possible, In all probability we will see more engagements than the others of the squadron, and that is what we want, as we are all anxious for a fight now.

Hopewell Hill.

Hopewell Hill, May 14-A very great amount of sickness prevails at present in this and the neighboring villages and a number of serious cases are reported. Miss Sarah Shaw, of Chemical Road, is very ill and fears are entertained for her recovery. Mrs. Chesley Smith, of this place, who has been very sick for several weeks, is not improving. J. L. Peck's steam mill at this place

has finished the season out. Goodwin's mill has finished sawing for Alex. Rogers at Dry Brook and will be moved by scow to Goose River to saw for the Messrs.

Eighty thousand elephants are required annually to supply the world with ivory. Most of them come from South Africa.

ter, said that he did not know when Hon. the member was on trial and that were investigating corrupt practices. challenged any one to show that I Commission to show that Commission to show th

location, in which they are probably sur-"The trath is, I believe, that the Pre-

