

PRETORIA PLOTTERS BEFORE THE COURT.

DeWet Slips Through Kitchener's Fingers and Gets Away.

MONEY FOR BRITISH PRISONERS.

Fire at Mackinac Island—Carnegie and the Ore Corner—Unfaithful New York Policeman Gets Off Easily—Ratata Sunk in Collision and Two of the Crew Drowned—Harris, Wanted for the Murder of a Policeman in New York, Caught in Washington—He Tells the Story of the Stabbing, Not Knowing His Victim was Dead.

Pretoria, Aug. 16.—The trial by court-martial of Lieut. Cordua, of the Staats Artillery, and the other leaders of the conspirators concerned in the plot to kidnap Gen. Lord Roberts, began to-day. The prisoners pleaded guilty, but at the suggestion of the court, withdrew their plea, and the trial is proceeding.

DeWet Escapes.

Pretoria, Aug. 16.—General DeWet has managed to elude General Kitchener in spite of the fact that all the British wagons had double teams of picked animals. The Boers evaded the British at night over grounds known to them, while their pursuers were obliged to march in the day time.

Money for British Prisoners.

Cape Town, Aug. 17.—A U. S. Consular official has gone from Lorenzo Marques to Nootgedacht to distribute money to British prisoners there, each of whom receives \$20.

Fire at Mackinac.

Mackinac Island, Mich., Aug. 17.—Fire started early to-day in the pine cottage, one of the large boarding houses of the island. The residence of John W. Davis also caught fire, and both houses were burned. People in the hotel and the residents all turned out to fight the fire. The loss is estimated at from \$25,000 to \$35,000 with no insurance. Wm. Taylor, a member of the fire department, was probably fatally injured by a fall.

That Ore Deal Report.

Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 17.—The report that the Carnegie Co. had just closed a deal for ten million tons of ore a year for fifty years, thereby practically giving the company control of the iron ore production of the Lake Superior district, cannot be confirmed here. When seen to-day the officials of the company preserved their usual reticence on matters concerning their business, and refused to affirm or deny the report.

Boers Release a Canadian.

London, Aug. 16.—It has been reported to the War Office that Pte. M. L. Shester, formerly of the 13th Field Battery, C. A., and who was taken a prisoner by the Boers while serving with the Canadian Artillery in South Africa, was released some time ago and has arrived at Lorenzo Marques.

"Why did you leave your last place?" asked the woman who was engaging a servant. "Why did your last girl leave you?" was the prompt retort.

All But Two Saved.

London, Aug. 17.—The Norwegian barque Ratata, which was in collision with the British steamer Exeter City, was sunk. The disaster occurred on Aug. 11th in latitude 49 north, longitude 25 west. Two of the crew were drowned. The remainder were rescued by the Exeter City and brought to port.

CANADIANS COMING HOME.

List of One Hundred Who Sailed Yesterday.

The Toronto Evening Telegram has the following special cable yesterday:

London, Aug. 14.—The following are the names of the Canadian invalids who sailed to-day for Canada:

- Pte. P. Finch Smith, 5th Regt. Canadian Artillery, Victoria, B. C.
- Pte. G. Hunt, 1st Prince of Wales Fusiliers, Halifax, N. S.
- Pte. A. Murray, D. Y. R. C. Hussars, N. S.
- Pte. J. P. French, 90th Winnipeg Rifles.
- Pte. J. Hatton, 14th P. W. O. Rifles, Kingston.
- Pte. Arthur Pelky, 62nd St. John, N. B., Fusiliers.
- Pte. V. Ollum, 22nd Oxford Rifles, Woodstock.
- Pte. M. J. Quinn, New Brunswick.
- Pte. M. Champagne, Quebec.
- Pte. W. P. R. Brettingham, 12th York Rangers, Toronto.
- Pte. H. Fraser, 41st Brockville Rifles.
- Pte. W. A. Martin, 43rd Ottawa and Carleton Rifles.
- Pte. F. Evans, 26th Middlesex Light Infantry, London.
- Pte. W. A. Morrison, Ottawa.
- Pte. E. Garnett, Q. O. R., Toronto (Canada Mounted Rifles).
- Pte. A. J. Hall, 57th Battalion, Peterboro'.
- Pte. L. Lovell, Montreal.
- Pte. F. Donahue, Quebec Co.
- Pte. W. J. Vanderwater, Q. O. R., Toronto.
- Pte. R. G. Johnston, 3rd Dragoons, Peterboro'.
- Corp. J. Smith, 22nd Oxford Rifles, Woodstock.

- Pte. Jas. Kennedy, 10th R. G., Toronto.
- Pte. J. A. Scott, 93rd Cumberland Battalion.
- Pte. L. Woods, 63rd Halifax Rifles.
- Pte. D. L. Regan, 60th Princess Louise Fusiliers, Nova Scotia.
- Pte. S. Brown, 93rd Cumberland Batt.
- Pte. H. L. Wannamaker, 74th Batt.
- Pte. W. A. Walker, 66th Princess Louise Fusiliers.
- Pte. J. A. Mitchell, 48th Highlanders, Toronto.
- Pte. A. Lockwood, 66th King's County Batt., N. S.
- Pte. A. Carter, Victoria, B. C.
- Pte. J. Plamondon, Quebec.
- Pte. A. Lemay, Montreal.
- Pte. J. Toucheite, Montreal.
- Pte. C. A. Donaldson, Brockville.
- Pte. E. Kelly, Montreal Co.
- Pte. J. Day, London, Ont.
- Pte. A. E. Cole, Windsor.

- Pte. E. H. Tripp, A Squadron, Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. W. Dougal, A Squadron, Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. N. C. Graham, A Squadron, Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. A. G. Willoughby, Colborne, Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. A. E. Ault, Aultsville, Ont., Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. C. E. McGee, A Squadron, Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. L. R. Miller, Lawrenceton, N. S., Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. W. B. Spink, Q. O. R., Toronto, Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Color-Sergt. J. D. Eustace, Halifax.
- Pte. A. Ross, Kingston, Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. A. E. Coggins, Toronto.
- Pte. G. E. Wildman, N. W. M. P., Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. H. J. Taylor, Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. J. J. Harvey, Manitoba Dragoons, Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. F. Thornton, R. C. Dragoons, Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. F. Macdonald, Ottawa Co.
- Pte. F. Cox, Montreal Co.
- Lance-Corp. Hugh Miller, New Brunswick.

Colonel Delamere, commandant of the Bisley team, by request of the Commander-in-Chief, took charge of the men. The Lord Mayor addressed them, offering his congratulations on their magnificent behavior and pluck. Col. Delamere briefly replied. An immense crowd witnessed the departure of the brave fellows, and the send-off was an enthusiastic one. The men are delighted at being able to return home. Each man received five pounds as a gift from the British Government.

Is Steyn Dead?

London, Aug. 17.—The Lorenzo Marques correspondent of the Daily Mail says a report emanating from the office of Mr. Pott, Consul of the Transvaal, states that President Steyn, of the Orange Free State, is dead. The correspondent adds that he learned he died on the road while trying to reach President Kruger. He was previously reported to be

guished him from his characteristic brother Boers. Standing over six feet in his stockings, broad chest, open of countenance, and that well tanned by the weather, and with simple manners, he looked every inch a prosperous young yeoman who would never again shut himself up within four walls to actual study. From a chance visit to the farm came a great change. When he was barely 19 Mr. Justice Buchanan, of the Orange Free State High Court, and a friend of his father, chanced to stay at the family homestead at a time when the elder Steyn, as a member of the Executive Council, was detained at Bloemfontein by State duties. The judge was struck by his young host's manners and his intelligence and grasp of affairs, and on his return to the capital talked over the young man's future with his father, who, as a close friend of Sir John Brand, the President, knew even more about the wealth and power and educational standards of the British than does apparently the average Free Stater of to-day.

In 1876 the future statesman left his home to complete his education in England and on the continent. He went to England at an impressionable age, and in passing from London to Amsterdam many striking contrasts must have struck him, and assisted in the formation of his views on the lives of men and nations. At the same time, he pursued his studies assiduously in England and in Holland, and when in 1882 he returned home he was a barrister whose memories of the Inner Temple intermingled with pleasant recollections of his sojourn in Holland, the home of his father's fathers.

His life naturally divides itself up, roughly, in periods of six years. He was six years in Europe, and returning to South Africa, he practised in Bloemfontein with success for six years. Six years later he was appointed first puisne judge, and yet another six years and he was elected President by universal suffrage. But there were events in the interval which went to the building up of his career and led directly to the Presidency. In 1889 he became State Attorney, and in the same year was

principally to the medical testimony, and the fact that the surgeons made the examination of the remains twenty-five days after the death occurred interfered considerably with the importance and the interest which otherwise would be attached to their evidence. Early in the day the Crown placed on the stand Dr. Hadley Williams, F. R. C. S., who with Drs. Eccles and Faugh conducted the post-mortem examination of the remains of Joseph Sifton in the cemetery of St. John's.

The cross-examination of Mrs. McFarlane was quite severe. She admitted that she was not very sure of what had passed in her conversation with Gerald Sifton, because she was nervous and was crying over the marriage. She denied having discussed with Mary the provisions of the last will made by Mr. Sifton.

Edgar Morden came to her house three days before Gerald Sifton's arrest and read the will to the witness and to her married daughter. At that time Morden told the witness that Mary's life was in danger while she remained in Gerald Sifton's house and that she should be brought home at once. Mrs. McFarlane said that she had tried to persuade her daughter not to marry Joseph Sifton because of his reputation in regard to his other wives. Mary, however, refused to give up her lover, and Mrs. McFarlane finally told her to go ahead and be married. Mrs. McFarlane denied being particularly interested in her daughter's claim to the Sifton property.

Mrs. Cooper, the wife of the Methodist minister at St. John's, swore that Gerald called at the parsonage early on the morning of Joseph Sifton's death. He asked if the marriage of his father and Mary McFarlane had taken place, and on being told that it had not, he said that he had not a word of protest to make if the marriage took place, but if they were not married and were living together as man and wife in a civilized country it was not very nice. The witness could give no explanation as to how the statement came to be made, and she was not cross-examined by the defence.

Mrs. Mary Sifton, who saw Gerald and the hired man drive to the parsonage on the morning of the tragedy, also gave evidence. She said that Gerald remained there about fifteen minutes.

Mr. H. C. McBride, an architect, employed by the Crown to make measurements of the barn in which Sifton met his death, was the last witness whose evidence was offered. He said that the hole through which Joseph Sifton is said to have fallen was three feet wide and five feet six inches high, extending from the collar beam to the apex of the roof. The boards which had been removed to make this opening had been nailed to the rafters at the top. These nails were bent downwards when found by the witness, and he was of the opinion that if the boards had been knocked off from the top as alleged the nails would not have been bent. Standing on the collar beam, as he was alleged to have done, Sifton would have had two rows of nails beneath him. The witness thought that it was impossible for a man of the height of the deceased to stand on the collar beam and knock off the boards with an axe.

At the conclusion of this evidence Mr. Magee announced that he would offer no further evidence, and the investigation was then adjourned for a week, when the testimony will be read over to the prisoners, and they will be committed for trial. No evidence will be brought forward by the defence at the hearing of the case.

Canada sent £2,836,536 worth of products to Britain in July, the exports of cattle, wheat, bacon, cheese and fish showing large increases. Our imports from Britain were only £278,161, but we may do better this month

THE SIFTON MURDER.

Mary McFarlane's Mother Cross-Examined.

CASE FOR CROWN CLOSED.

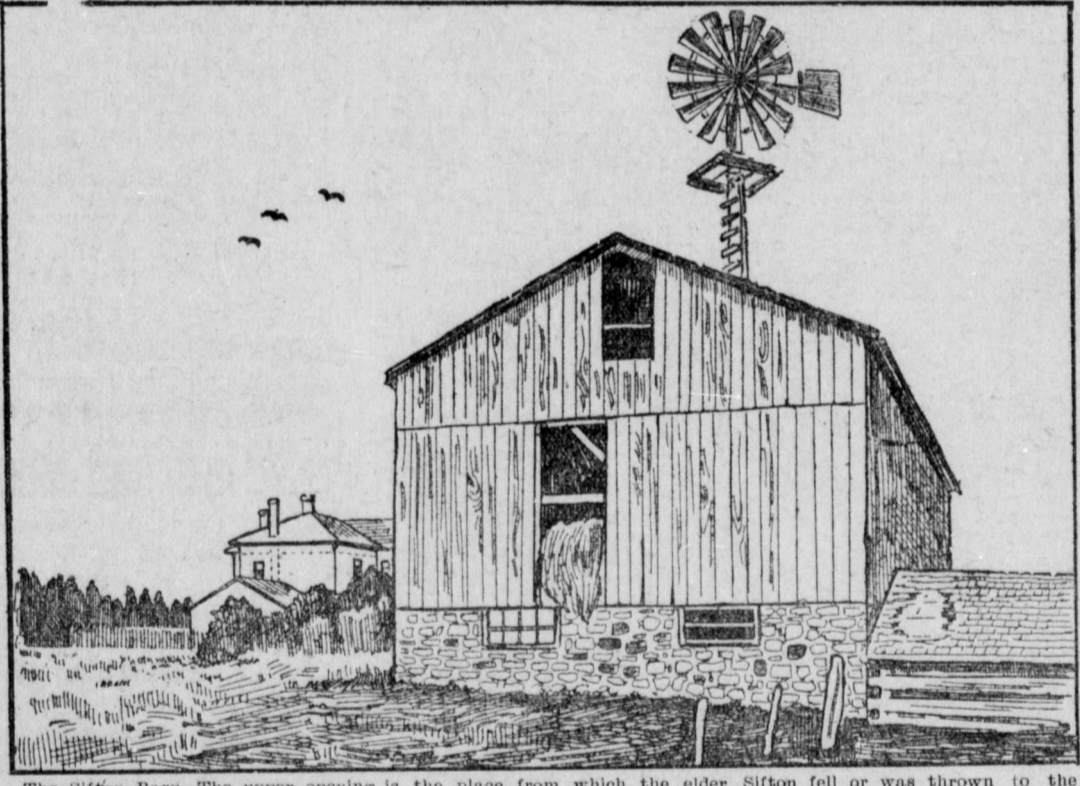
London report: The Crown has rested its case in the preliminary investigation in the Sifton case, and although the two prisoners, Gerald Sifton and Walter Herbert, have not been committed for trial, the formal reading of the testimony only remains to be accomplished before they are sent to a higher court. They will be tried on the charge of murder at the regular Assizes, which open in September, so that a little more than a month will elapse before the two men now in the Middlesex county jail will know their fate.

The hearing yesterday was devoted



WALTER HERBERT, Gerald Sifton's Alleged Accomplice.

SCENE OF THE SIFTON TRAGEDY.



The Sifton Barn—The upper opening is the place from which the elder Sifton fell or was thrown to the ground below. Gerald says he was standing on the girt (shown) while the knotting off the boards. The lower opening was made by the detective to permit of the removal of the hay put in after the tragedy. Gerald Sifton's house is seen at the left.

- Pte. W. H. Hewitt, Q. O. R., Toronto.
- Pte. W. A. Fellmore 93rd Cumberland Batt.
- Pte. J. A. Harris, 82nd Queen's County Batt., N. B.
- Pte. W. C. Schwitter, D Co., Ottawa.
- Pte. D. A. Noble, Brantford.
- Pte. S. Vicking, Sault Ste. Marie.
- Pte. E. Jobben, Quebec.
- Pte. Samuel Crockett, London.
- Pte. A. P. Thomas, Montreal Co.
- Pte. H. G. Brunton, Newmarket.
- Sergt. W. Bessette, Quebec Co.
- Lance-Corp. Desjardins, Montreal.
- Pte. F. A. E. Taylor, Halifax.
- Pte. R. A. McRae, Ottawa.
- Pte. E. W. Pert, 28th Perth Batt.
- Pte. S. Blair, 93rd Cumberland Batt.
- Pte. W. R. Latimer, Ottawa.
- Pte. L. McGiveria, Q. O. T., Toronto.
- Pte. J. R. Vickers, 10th R. G., Toronto.
- Pte. A. Demals, Quebec.
- Pte. P. R. Foster, Ottawa.
- Pte. James Drake, Halifax.
- Pte. P. J. Cunningham, 20th Halton Batt.
- Pte. Charles Harrison, Quebec Co.
- Pte. J. F. Smith, Ottawa.
- Pte. J. F. Usher, Q. O. R., Toronto.
- Pte. C. T. Spence, Ottawa.
- Pte. A. Martin, Montreal Co.
- Pte. J. W. Jones, Victoria, B. C.
- Pte. A. E. Paddon, Windsor, Ont.
- Pte. F. Burkhart, 29th Waterloo Batt.
- Pte. G. D. McCallum, 93rd Cumberland Batt.
- Pte. C. Hancock, Nova Scotia Co.
- Pte. W. E. Trueman, Nova Scotia Co.
- Pte. E. E. Bent, Nova Scotia Co.
- Pte. H. J. Lambkin, 8th Royal Rifles, Quebec Co.
- Pte. A. Sutherland, Quebec Co.
- Pte. Percival Simpson, New Brunswick.
- Pte. J. H. Lockhart, Sussex, N. B., Canada Mounted Rifles.
- Pte. J. Church, Toronto, Ont., Canada Mounted Rifles.

very ill, but the correspondent says he is informed that he died from the effects of a severe wound. He states, however, that the details are not authenticated.

EX-PRESIDENT STEYN.

Sketch of the Man Who Sold His Country.

Martinus Theunis Steyn was born on Oct. 2nd, 1857, at Winburg, not far from Bloemfontein, of parents of note. His father was a farmer, who had won the esteem of his fellow-countrymen, and had been chosen by them as their representative at the Volksraad, while his mother came of the family of the Wessels, pioneers whose name is written large on the history of the Free State.

His parents were of the farming class, but they held broad, progressive views, and it needed only the hint of a friend to stir those opinions into activity, so that they should mould the career of young Steyn to great ends. His maternal grandmother was residing at Bloemfontein. In his entertaining book of impressions entitled "White Man's Africa," Mr. Pountney Bigelow says:

raised to the bench as second puisne judge, a stepping-stone to the position of first judge.

In the year of his marriage, 1887, to the eldest daughter of the Rev. Colin J. Fraser, of Philipolis, President Brand, his father's intimate friend for many years, had a disagreement with the Volksraad, and resigned for what cause no one knew. Mr. Steyn seized the mantle of the peacemaker, prevailed on the Mayor of Bloemfontein to call a public meeting, and by his eloquent appeal—he was only 30 years old at the time—got the gathering to pass a resolution unanimously asking Sir John Brand to withdraw his resignation.

Soon after the Jameson raid came the Presidential election. Who would be elected? Mr. J. G. Fraser, the chairman of the Volksraad, the popular assembly of the Free State, seemed an invincible candidate, but he had a Scottish name, came of Scotch parents, and might be supposed to have some British sympathies. He was a man of sober judgment, well tried in the service of the country of his adoption, and his position was evidence of the trust which had hitherto been reposed in him. He was not Dutch as was Mr. Steyn, whose ancestors had done so much to found and consolidate the State. Who can fathom the causes that turn the scales in an election by universal suffrage at a moment when the popular imagination is inflamed? There are reasons to believe that Mr. Steyn, a descendant of great trekkers of early days, owed something of his success, if not all to the fact that Mr. Fraser had a name that sounded British, and that he showed sympathies of more British tint than those of the young husband of his niece. Mr. Steyn gained the victory by six to one, and with his election was turned the last page in this history of the Orange Free State. His career since then is known to all.